Spirit Migration – CH00 (Prologue)

By Tensaiz March 3, 2015

Okay first of all, WE'RE NOT DROPPING TNS!
Sorry, been on a vacation, and it all took a while etc.
We have finished translating TNS up till chapter 24 + an extra chapter (Not edited yet, mind you) so that means we certainly did get something done, but we just haven't had the time to upload it yet. And yeah, it took a month <_<, I'm extremely sorry.
Right now we're planning to at least finish volume 2 of TNS, but considering we're still missing chapter from vol 3 and 4 from TNS we have also picked up another project along with TNS.
Which is why the TNS translations lagged a little too.
This is the first chapter of the new project we have picked up, enjoy~!
Oh and a new TNS chapter should be up as soon as our editor has finished editing it, which will be somewhere today.
And again, sorry for the slow updates.
-Tensaiz
———————————————

The place where the souls of the dead gather. Samsara. Reincarnation. Just like 'that person' whose soul remained in this place together with the memories of his past life sinking deeper, waiting for their next life.

TL Note : Samsara is the Cycle of Death and Rebirth (or reizilla's digestive process if you will) – Sumguy

There are times where souls that gained a new life are pulled up, but most of the memories the people have are the ones they had accumulated since the time they were conscious in this 'place'. A 'place' that seems to be filled with silence for all of eternity, 'that person' who was supposed to be added to it, is swaying heavily because of the strong feelings from his past life that were engraved into his soul.

TL Note : Depending on which aspect of buddhism/hinduism/shintoism this author is referring to, the following could be wrong. Souls are eternal, the samsara is where the "life experience" of a particular life the soul have lived gathers. The souls that are "pulled up" are given -instincts/embedded memory- according to their next role in the cycle of karma. This means that the vast majority of the memory are from life experience as opposed to instructive knowledge – Sumguy

Together with a small amount of memories, a single soul, together with his spirit, but he was drawn by another world and fell down through the door of life.

[…… This place, where could it be.]

Inadvertently looking up to the stone ceiling, crossed by cracks like black lightning, the light that came from that part was lighting up the surrounding area. The figure on the old altar like monument, repeatedly asked himself with a blurring consciousness.

[Just who……. am I.]

Gradually the consciousness that was full of gaps, began to have a firm grip and remembered thathe was once human. He can't remember his name or age, but the remains of his spirit understood from his habits that he was once a man. He felt like he lived a pretty long time, yet he felt that he was young.

[Why, I wonder, am I here.]

Since this isn't a place from my memories, I've understood that this is a different world and I am aware that I am a foreign substance in this world. The light illuminates up the whole place from time to time, emphasizing the shades of the old altar. While looking around beyond the decayed stone floor, that continued for a while, was a wall with some carvings on it.

[Just what should I do.]

Not seeing something like an exit from the altar, not trying to do anything, not knowing just what he should do, just floating on the altar while spacing out.

For how long he did that, the white light had changed with the light of the moon, when he felt that it had become night, he who was just floating there like a ghost, heard footsteps from a shadow and directed his conscious to it.

Just where did it come wandering in from, a rat the size of a full grown cat, it was squeaking about, whilst moving around on the altar. Without being able to move from here, he was jealous of the rat that was able to move around freely.

Then, while he was observing the rat for a while, he felt a gap like hole on the nape of the neck of the rat. It wasn't that there was a hole in the body, but the feeling of 'there is a hole there'.

[What would that be?]

The moment he focused his conscious on that part, he was flowing in it as if he was being sucked in, when he noticed it, he was already inside the rat's body. Rather than merging, he was controlling the rat's conscious, the so called ‘state of possession’.

Unless he strongly urge it, the rat will move according to its own will, it seem difficult to freely control the body, but maybe because he directly touched its conscious he was able to understand the thought process of the rat.

I was able to read from the rats mind, that this area was where they live and where they get their food, and that it's a danger zone.

A big space in the dungeon. Exits where only small creatures could pass through, big passageways which even big creatures can use, information about this place was coming to me little by little.

It seems like this rat passed through cracks in the wall and ended up on the altar. because of the influence of the possession, its head got a little heavier but without minding it, the big rat headed towards the hunting ground which was a danger zone.

Since he couldn't see much of his surroundings from the possessed rat's point of view, he began to look around from the nape of the neck.

[Somehow, it feels as if the rat is the one moving around.]

I saw the light of the exit, within the small crack, from the running rat's head. Eventually passing the exit, there was a giant open space. When looking up to the ceiling there was natural rock like a cave, but the walls and the floor looked like they were man made. It seems that it's a wide passage.

Compared to the altar, it doesn't seem to be that old, but from time to time there are some cracks and openings on the wall and floors which didn't seem natural. It looked like a situation after someone used force to damage it. On specific places on the wall, were torch like fires lighting the place.

The rat that was running along the wall, raised its nose and began sniffing at certain places. Then it reacted to something. Concentrating my conscious on the rat's senses, it seemed that the presence of 'Human' was close.

[Are there humans close by?]

When I made some distance between me and the rat's body in order to see the surroundings from a higher point of view, I found a few shadows of some humans deep within the wide passage. If I focused my eyes their figures would become sharper and the shadow’s figures could be seen clearly.

[…….?]

Three at the front and two in the back, the group was together in that kind of formation, he knew from his past memories, that they were dressed far from from the common sense of ordinary people.

From those wearing leather armor and donning a sword, to ones like magicians and alchemists with robes and staves, and those that had armor made from fur and leaves, having a bow in hand. They don't seem like normal modern people, and they don't look like they're Japanese either.

[Modern people…..? Japanese….. Japan…. Game….. Cosplay… Culture.]

When I started sorting out the missing memories that came to me and forming an image, the woman dressed with fur and leaves shot an arrow from her bow. "A~tsu" by the time he noticed that, the rat that he was possessing was pierced by the arrow.

The soul was parted from the body through the strong wave of the death throe of the soul, his conscious was floating away from the big rat's corpse. The last things he felt from the rat's mind were, "It hurts", "Run" and "I'm hungry".

"Alright, I killed it with one shot."

"Something like this is easy."

"Well Leader-san, can you just lead us to the lower floors already."

"I'm already bored with fighting against bats and rats."

The group came close from the depths of the passage, in order to confirm the kill, while having a conversation, skinning the rat, and taking its fangs, the battle hardened middle aged man with fine armor came close.

"Don't underestimate the monster of the dungeon, it is still too early for you guys to go down below."

The middle aged man called leader, was telling off the youths brimming with vigor.

Nobody noticed 'his' existence floating around close by. 'He' did not understand the language they were speaking in, but as if reading subtitles, he was able to understand the meaning of their words. Since 'he' who is a spiritual body, has surpassed common language, he focused his 'will' on the words that they spoke.

From their conversation and spilled out thoughts, he was able to understand that their group had come here with the objective of hunting.

This place is what they call a dungeon, an underground labyrinth, it’s a dangerous place where the monsters get stronger with every floor. Since they're able to trade the monsters’ materials, they came here aiming for gold.

Those that want to test their sword or magic skills, those that want to train, those that want to find treasure, for these adventurers, this place can be called both heaven and hell.

[So it's a dungeon~]

As 'he' muttered so, while processing the information, he was able to deepen his understanding of his situation little by little.

After the group led by the middle aged man left, 'he' who was floating alone in the dungeons passage was, as expected without doing anything, not knowing what he should do, just floating there, spaced out.

The corpse of the rat was becoming the dinner of little insects, until nothing was left.

[……. I wonder if no one will pass by.]

At the time, he remembered the feeling of 'sadness' and 'boredom', close to him was a bug with an elongated body with a pincher on its tail at the end. According to his memories, it was a bug that resembled an earwig, but it was an big earwig about 42 centimeters long.

When he focuses his conscious on the unmoving earwig, he notices something like a hole near its head. Just like the big rat, when he focused his conscious on the hole, he possessed the earwig as if he was sucked in by it.

[Alright, with this I'll be able to move around.]

He, who now obtained legs to move with, began moving around the dungeon with a rustling sound. He didn't have a particular goal in mind. If he had to give one, it would be that he wanted to find someone human like.

[Ah, it's a human…… Earwig-kun, go that way!]

Because of his strong influence over the Earwig’s mind, the earwig went toward the human through the passage. Together with incomplete memories and being in spiritual form, 'he' who came to this world started his dungeon life like this.

Spirit Migration – CH01 – The Girl's Lost Item

By Tensaiz

March 4, 2015

Here's a new Spirit chapter, new TNS chap will be up in a few sec~!

Chapter 01: The girls lost item

Some time had passed since 'he' possessed an earwig-like monster and got crushed by the wary adventurer's attack. After 'he' got used to possessing big rats, small rats, and bugs,

it was as if he had learned the ropes of it and he was able to control them at his own will.

[He……re…….. Here we go.]

'He' who is flying through the corridor while trying to maintain his balance, is now possessing a large bat that lives inside the dungeon.

The living beings that live inside this dungeon change because of the magic power within it, becoming enlarged or going berserk. Since from time to time an adventurer party passes by, he was able to find out about the history and workings of the dungeon.

It seems like even humans will be affected if they stay too long inside the dungeon. By the way, 'he' also tried to possess a human, but it didn't go well.

[However this bat, because its body is so big, it takes a while to get back up high if it falls once.]

The big mutant bat was located before a normal bat, like a normal one, it was hanging upside down on the ceiling while resting, it drops well by sliding it's leg. What ´he´ was possessing was also a bat, he got the idea when he saw one going towards him when he was possessing a rat.

The balance may be bad, but his mobility had increased because it can fly. Thanks to that, he was able to find many things on this floor, like the exit to the dungeon and, furthermore, he was able to find the stairs leading deeper down the dungeon. He tried to leave the dungeon once through the exit, however something like a barrier stopped him and he couldn't get out.

For that reason, today 'he' who didn't do anything in particular and was just floating there, and thus, was just hovering around the ceiling of the exit of the dungeon, while thinking: 'won't anyone pass by~', just hovering. If he was in a place where he stood out, things like arrows or fireballs or ice shards would come flying towards him, so he was floating in a place where he didn't stand out.

[Oh?]

Yesterday, the teacher of an adventurer party led them to the dungeon in the town of Barass. 'The first floor is safe, there isn't anything scary' a petite human presence kept telling herself that with timid steps in the passage. Because of some circumstances, she came alone today.

She, who had just become an adventurer apprentice, was a normal teenage girl if you left out the battle training she

had and her knowledge as an adventurer.

She wore normal town clothes and a thick coat meant for long journeys, her weapons were a knife provided by the adventurer's society and a short bow with an arrow. Since the first floor of the dungeon had lights, so her hands were free, she had an arrow nocked so that she could attack from a safe distance.

"I-It's okay, it's okay. I just have to look around the area I was yesterday, even if monsters come out, I should be able to beat them on my own."

She was nervously muttering that, confirming she had her knife on her belt, she grasped her short bow and began walking through the passage.

From the ceiling 'He' who was looking at the girl who was a nooby adventurer no matter how you looked at it, was concentrating his consciousness on the girl, he controlled the possessed bat and slipped from the ceiling. 'He' was trying to observe the girl closely, but he didn't make it in time to spread his wings.

To the black mass that simply fell down in front of her eyes, the surprised girl readied her bow in a hurry. But, she didn't have an arrow readied yet.

Impatiently she tried to grab an arrow, by the time she had loaded the arrow on her bow and fixed her stance, the black mass had stood back up and looked at her. She involuntarily felt a chill down her spine. However, the black mass didn't make any moves to attack and just kept looking at her with its eyes that looked like glass beads.

"……Bat?"

"Kyi."

'He' tried to tried to simply answer the girl. Even if the monsters he possessed were to be pierced by an arrow or slashed by a sword, 'he' himself didn't get particularly affected by it, there weren't any problems with facing adventurers.

Since 'He' would get hunted no matter what, 'He' acts stealthily around humans.

"Could it be that you fell down?"

"Kiki."

The girl looked up to the ceiling once, then she returned her gaze to the big bat that was standing perched in the passage, the bat answered her gaze by gazing back. It's a monster that is tentatively called 'man-eating bat', but the girl calmed down noticing that this bat didn't have any ill will.

It seems like the fangs and claws of a bat are some kind of valuable material, so from time to time adventurers or merchants come to hunt them down. Basically it's a monster you don't have to be wary of.

"You're a klutz aren't you."

"Kyi~"

When the girl puts the short bow on her back she fearfully approached the large bat, after knowing that there wasn't any danger she lifted him up, in a confusing way she started her search in the dungeon while hugging him as if he were a stuffed doll.

"That's why-, I think I dropped it around here yesterday when I passed through."

"Kyi."

“I cherished it since it was a present that I liked, but to think I would drop it in a place like this……”

“Kyi.”

A strange conversation between a human and a monster resounded in the passage of the underground dungeon. ‘He’ was happy to have some communication with a human, even if he couldn’t answer her, he could still respond to her, he was enjoying listening to the girl’s words which became close to complaining.

According to the girls story, the cherished brooch she got from her male childhood friend who was always being dragged around by his adventurer parents, it seems like she dropped it yesterday when she fell while being trained here, so she came back in order to find it. She just entered the training school of the adventurers society so she didn’t have any friends who would come with her to the dungeon in order to find her lost item, and she can’t tell the guy ‘I dropped it’ since it’d be awkward. Thinking it’d be alright if it was just the first floor, she summoned up her courage and came down.

She took the route which they picked with her party yesterday, while looking if she dropped her brooch anywhere, but there wasn’t anything that looked like that’d be it.

“Nothing……. maybe someone picked it up or something.”

“Kyi.”

“There’s no way that a monster picked it up right-“

“Kiki?”

Not really. Were the words that ‘he’ couldn’t say, since from time to time he sees the big rats and earwigs pick up dropped coins or shards of gems and carry them somewhere within the dungeon.

When ‘He’ is in his spirit form he was able to see the flow of magic power after it had reached a certain point. Gems are able to absorb magic power easily, the gems and metal ores inside the dungeon are covered in the magic power it gives off, so they absorb it. It seems like the large rat that got mutated by the magic power of the dungeon, gets attracted to objects that have magic power within it.

“If it’s inside a monster’s body then it’ll become troublesome to find it.”

From within the girl’s arm ‘He’ was looking around the area to help her find her lost item, then he saw a large rat in the wall in front of them. The girl was looking the other way so she hadn’t noticed it yet. It seems like the large rat has gone into a berserk state from hunger. ‘He’ informed the girl about the danger.

“Kyikyi!”

“What happened? So suddenly— ~tsu!”

The girl who looked at the wall in front of her became silent. Noticing that the large rat was obviously aiming for her, she put down the bat in her arms and took her short bow into her hand. Since she came here with the adventurer party last time, this’ll be her first real battle. The large rat that exposed its fangs against her.

She fires her arrow immediately at the lunging rat, but her accuracy against the target puppets at training was only 70%, so with her skills it was too hard to hit a moving opponent, so she missed and her arrow hit the floor. When she was going to fire her next arrow the rat had already come close to her face and aimed its fangs at her throat.

“Hi……~tsu.”

Because she was so overcome with fear, the girl couldn’t even draw her knife and froze in place. At that moment a

black mass appeared, and threw himself in front of the girl. With fangs sharp enough to cut through stone, the rat pierced the large bats body. The large rat thought that it'd be okay with whatever it had, so it began to prey on the large bat.

"Kou-chan!"

[Eh, you already gave me a name!?]

After feeling the death throes of the bat 'He' switched to the large rat that was preying on the large bat he was just in, he checked his surroundings to see the girl. He checked both the girls well being, as well as his means of transportation.

Thinking it'd be better to leave this place for now 'He' jumped into a small hole within the wall. From the back he heard the sobbing sounds of the girl saying "sorry, I'm so sorry" while holding the half eaten bat, Kou-chan.

It's probably because she was a nooby adventurer, but this was the first time 'He' had seen a human this close when he was inside a monster. Neither young nor old, none of them had any mercy in their heart for monsters.

"So she's a gentle child."

'He' thought that he should do something for the first human girl he was able to communicate with, so he used the body of the large rat to explore the area. He doesn't know what kind of item the girls dropped broche was, but if it contained precious metals or gems then as long as it was inside the dungeon 'He' would be able to see it from his perspective.

Then after moving around within the wall for a while, he found a source of a mass of magic power coming from inside a large rat. Even though these rat's don't form packs since they're mutations, they are still territorial, if another rat entered its territory it'll try to expel it.

Against the large rat that was baring its fangs, 'He' used the human wisdom he had. Picking up a rock of the right size within the useful paws of the rat, he just casually approached the other rat. Maybe because he got stimulated by the smell of the blood of the rat's previous prey, the large rat got pissed off and lunged at him.

The large rat that attacked, was gifted a stone to its mouth. The large rat vigorously bit on the stone, but noticing its fangs couldn't break it, it spit out the stone and moved back. But, before it could do that he pressed the stone further in.

The large rat rolled onto its back with its face becoming pale because of the stone in its mouth,

while fidgeting around the rat's abdomen got impaled by another rat's fangs. Since it was the same as the feeling when he bit through some meat, he didn't feel anything in particular because of it. Then from the abdomen of the large rat he found a brooch which was emitting small amounts of magic power

"Is this it? The thing that child lost."

Thinking it should be given immediately 'He' ran back toward the passage he just came from.

"Would she still be there?"

The girl was already gone when he returned to the site, not knowing from where they suddenly popped up from, the large bat's body was being eaten away by a swarm of small insects that were like the cleanup crew of the dungeon. Then he saw a human's appearance from afar so he tried to approach it, then saw an adventurer like boy soothing a girl while walking to the exit.

"But, but even though it was something you gave me……"

“I’ll buy something like that anytime you want.”

Actually the boy who was originally against the girl going to the adventurers association’s school, was now reminding her that she shouldn’t do something dangerous like this next time.

“Also it was just coincidence that the bat protected you.”

“But, Kou-chan was….”

The adventurer boy gave a lecture to the girl about monsters, after she said that she wanted to bring back the large bat’s corpse and make a grave for it.

Basically, monsters that live inside the dungeon are infected by the malice and grudges of souls that became intertwined, and act based on that. On the lower floors the mutated animals may move differently because of their instincts from when they were normal animals, but when they are monsters they all act with the same principle in mind.

Because of the collective consciousness inside the dungeon, they won’t get hugged by humans, and they also can’t be fed, which has been shown to you in the lessons.

“Seriously, you ar-, because you think you can do what you want, I was worried about you.”

“Uhh, I’m sorry.”

Behind the two that were conversing with each other, a large rat was following after them with a bloodstained brooch. Since one of his hands was occupied he couldn’t run very well, by the time he finally caught up to them, they were already walking up the stairs to the exit. Because the barrier prevents monsters from leaving, with the body of a large rat he was prevented from even taking one step. In the end, ‘He’ wasn’t able to give the lost item to the girl whose name he didn’t even know.

Before meeting any other adventurers ‘He’ went into a nearby hole, and attached the brooch to his fur so he wouldn’t lose it.

[This, what should I do with it.]

I can’t keep it with my spirit form since it can’t touch solid things. While thinking that, he let out half his spirit form and made a grabbing gesture toward the brooch. When ‘his’ hand slipped past the brooch, he felt his hand overlap with it in spirit form.

[Hmm?]

Feeling as if he obtained a faint sense of touch, ‘he’ tried to focus his consciousness on the brooch. With the image of having the brooch in his hand, he had the feeling as if it got closer, when he noticed it, the brooch was in his hand. To be precise he summoned it from his own dimension.

Moving from another dimension where the spirit form is to the other dimension where the real form is. In order to try it out with a random pebble he made an image where he was holding it, then just like the brooch, he was able to summon it to his own dimension. When he touched it, it wasn’t like the vague feelings he had before, it had a firm feel. The concept of distance seems vague, when summoning it to his hand it’ll be there, if he imagines it to go far away it’ll go far away. Thinking of it as a storage place it’s a very useful infinite place.

[So I was able to do such things…. hmm, with this I’ll be able to hold onto it without worry.]

‘He’ who thought that he should return it to the girl for when they meet again, stored the brooch in another

dimension. Having obtained a way to touch other things, he ran into the dungeon while thinking of things he wanted to touch.

Spirit Migration – CH02 – The howl and madness of the fool

By Tensaiz

March 7, 2015

Here's the promised Spirit chapter, TNS coming up next today~!

-Tensaiz

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Within the poorly illuminated dungeon, a large lizard, around 180 centimeters, was walking about.

After 'He' had explored the first floor, he thought about looking at the lower floors, so he went to the second floor with the large rat's body, then 'He' came across a large lizard that preys on rats, and got eaten. Because of that he possessed the large lizard, using it's body to explore the second floor.

[Ah, found some coins. Let's pick them up.]

On the second floor in the dungeon, the monsters that appear there are giant lizards and demon dogs that have mutated from wild dogs. Unlike the giant rats that don't form groups, it seems the demon dogs move in groups of three to five. The large lizards don't have an active personality, so they don't move around much, making them hard to find.

The demon dog with its high mobility seemed useful for exploring the dungeon, however, maybe because the demon dog's sensitivity is high, or because they are too afraid of the lizards, whenever he meets a demon dog they run away before he can get close to them, thus he still hasn't possessed one.

There are traces of human hands that have touched the floor and walls, since unlike the first floor, the second floor doesn't have any lights. It's completely dark. On the stairs connecting the first floor and the second floor, there was a dim light at the exit of the first floor to the second floor.

From time to time there are some glowing mushrooms and moss that become faint sources of light, but generally the adventurers that come here have prepared their own light in advance.

[Oh it's a human….. or at least, half of what's left; it doesn't seem like much time has passed.]

Occasionally, he would see the figure of victims near the entrance of this floor who underestimated the dangers of the dungeon. As expected, the darkness combined with the packs of demon dogs increase the danger a lot.

The abandoned bodies of adventurers were quickly disposed of by the insects and rats. When someone in your party dies, one can either bring them along as quickly as possible, or stand guard and wait until someone comes to help them.

[There are one, two……. six vials of magic potions left. The staff is broken isn't it.]

In the situation where you came in alone, or when you came with a group, after a few days the adventurer gets skeletonized and drops his or her equipment.

If that skeletonized corpse stays within the dungeon for some time, it'll become a skeleton warrior like monster, however, on the lower floors the concentration of magic is thin and a lot of adventurers pass by, so it's rare to see

one.

There are adventurers that take requests to pick up the corpses of the left behind comrades of others, but if the corpses wore equipment it would usually get stolen, after that they make it as if the body was damaged by monsters. If it becomes like that, retrieval becomes impossible.

[There's also a monster's corpse, this is a coin and this……. is a ring?]

'He' who was exploring the dungeon without anything to rely on, was wandering around while collecting items from monsters and humans that seemed useful to him.

Compared to the first floor, there were a lot more things inside the corridor, most of them were broken armours, shards of gems, and also coins. The weapons and arrows that weren't broken yet, were all stored in the other dimension warehouse. These will become important items for the sake of communication.

From time to time he also picks up adornments such as rings and earrings, the adornments often come out of the bellies of other monsters. In order to let the large lizard eat, he stops his control over it and gives it free reign, there was one time it ate a large rat and some dissolved earrings came out of its belly. Just like the lost brooch from last time, monsters seem to like to eat gems that have magic power in them.

'He' gave a silent prayer to the magician adventurer that had become a victim, turning around, he saw a lantern swaying in the distance. It might be his first contact with humans in a while. 'He' who was thinking that while seeing the light, so began to walk.

Even if he were to be hunted immediately, he couldn't ignore his feelings of wanting to meet other humans.

In the corner of a room, not far from the entrance to the second underground floor of the dungeon, there was a party that couldn't move anymore because one of them was injured.

They were a party of five with two instructors and three trainees of the adventurer's society that were training inside the dungeon and holding a promotion test for the students, but because they got careless, one of the instructors got heavily injured while protecting one of the trainees.

To make things worse, the the one that was injured was the healer of the party, and they were surrounded by a pack of demon dogs, being in a stalemate situation where they couldn't move around carelessly, and the situation just kept getting more dangerous since the number of demon dogs just kept increasing.

With her strength the other adventurer, a female warrior, could pass the pack of demon dogs and call for help, however, she couldn't do that while protecting the injured healer and the three trainees, and she couldn't leave them on their own.

"Sorry….. Because I let my guard down."

"Don't blame yourself for nothing, it wasn't your fault."

The female swordsman had formed a combo with a healer, who has a lot of technical knowledge, whom she was now protecting while he lay against the wall, she was doing that while thinking up a plan. At the moment they were being targeted by a pack of seven demon dogs.

"There's no other choice than to reduce their number and let the trainees call for help."

——And, at that time, one of the demon dogs began to growl and faced the corridor to the left as if it noticed something. When it looked a large lizard appeared while crawling over to them and then with a loud 'Tsu!' sound it just rammed itself into the pack of demon dogs.

Normally large lizards wouldn't do something like that, and as if they were saying "What the hell!?" The demon dogs that were hit cried '~yawangyawan'.

Not missing this chance, the female swordsman killed all of them that were distracted, and gave orders to the trainees.

"Go while you still can! If you request help from the association officials they'll come to your help quickly."

"Wha, Yes!"

The three trainees run up the stairs with the aim to go to the first floor. They weren't that far away from the stairs, so they should be able to get there without any problems.

Even if they're immature, together they shouldn't have any problems on the first floor. In front of the entrance of the dungeon is always a rescue party for when someone of the adventurer's association is in danger, so they should be able to call for help quickly.

After seeing that the trainees had run off, the female swordsman killed another demon dog, that had its back turned to her and was being distracted by the large lizard, but the healer was surrounded by monsters. Two demon dogs were biting on the large lizard, however they were just growling since it seemed that their fangs were stuck on its hard scales. From the remaining three, one was circling behind the large lizard and the other two that were targeting the healer were taken care off by the female swordsman.

The demon dog that was behind the large lizard got hit by its tail and grandly fell down.

[Since there isn't much to monsters that move in groups, it'd be a problem if you were get stuck on me ——— Hmmm, Oh?]

'He' who wanted the mobility of the demon dogs, was planning to posses one of them and had half left the large lizard, then unexpectedly human figures came from within the dungeon. Three human forms that were closing in without light. They were the trainees that had left to call for help.

Since 'He' is a spirit, he didn't have any problems seeing in the dark, the eyes of a normal human could only see as far as the light reached. They stopped at the border of the light the healer had put up, and observed them from the darkness. .

[I wonder what they're doing?]

Feeling something disturbing from the trainees 'He', only got his head out of large lizards body and began to observe them.

The brawl between the demon dogs and the large lizard, the two adventurers, one of them the injured healer, and the other the female swordsman that was protecting him. The three trainees from the adventurer's school were watching from the wall, clad in the darkness, as the female swordsman was taking care of two demon dogs. One of the trainees began to whisper to the other two.

"Hey, are we really going to do it?"

"Of course, try calling for something like help, we'll definitely be flunked."

"We injured an instructor, we're sure to get a fine, if we do it poorly we could get expelled."

If they could pass this time's exam, they would be able to accept simple requests from the adventurer's association, but if they were expelled from the adventurer's school they wouldn't be able to get support from the association, then

the path of being an adventurer would become exceedingly difficult.

An instructor dying in action at an exam wasn't a rare thing. The terrifying thing about the dungeon is that even experienced adventurers didn't know what could happen. If they could silence the two adventurers then they could just redo the test on another day, that being the plan, the three trainees aim for an opening from the female swordsman. There is also the large lizard that stormed in, they glared at it thinking it wouldn't come this way after obtaining the meat of two demon dogs.

"Okay, if that female swordsman starts her battle with the demon dog we'll attack her."

"Yeah, even if we don't do it, we just have to create an opening, then the demon dogs will finish her off."

"It doesn't feel right, but it's for the sake of our future……"

Eventually the female swordsman closed in until a certain distance and swung her sword against the demon dog.

"Now."

When the three of them ready their own weapons, they simultaneously jumped out in order to assault the female swordsman from behind. The healer that noticed them from their footsteps, feeling danger from the eyes and atmosphere of the trainees, in order to assist his partner he fired off a blinding magic with the little magic power he had left. The flash that burst in front of them stealing their vision, stopped the trainees from moving.

"…….. Tch, you guys!"

Noticing them and the flash behind her, the female swordsman's face became stiff. However right now she was busy with the two demon dogs so she couldn't engage them at the moment. Seeing that, two of them move towards the female swordsman with their weapons in hand, while one of them moved in order to give the finishing blow to the healer.

"You! Surviving bastard!"

TLnote: Surviving in the sense that death has been avoided, it's used as an insult in the form of: 'bastard who has escaped death.' -Tensaiz

The moment the sword was raised up facing the healer, the large lizard gave a roar and while still being bitten by the demon dogs, it began to crawl away with unimaginable speed, when the trainee was thinking about that unexpected action, he was actually bit. The trainee lost his footing and rolled over. Immediately near the two remaining trainees, with a growl the demon dogs attacked them, since the two demon dogs got tired of trying to bite through the large lizard's scales, they began to attack the trainees instead. The trainee that got bit in the body and fell down, was being targeted by the third demon dog that was biting the large lizard's tail, in a hurry he stood back up with his sword facing the demon dog. Whether it was by coincidence or because it was necessary, the three trainees that tried to silence the adventurers, were now fighting the three remaining demon dogs while the female swordsman took care of the other two, making it seem as if they were backing her up.

A united front where four humans fight against five monsters was born even though they were in a complicated situation. Meanwhile, the large lizard that seemed eccentric from the moment it appeared was crawling toward the healer that lay against the wall. The female swordsman was worried about the healer, however she couldn't get distracted while facing two demon dogs. Large lizards usually don't attack humans, however, it doesn't change the fact that it's a monster.

[For you.]

The large lizard that came so close as if it was hugging him opened its mouth and a vial fell out of it. The healer

picked it up while looking at it suspiciously. Inside the vial was some high quality magic water that was still in an unused state. As its name states, water that has been imbued with magic power, it can become an ingredient for various magical drugs. If it were to be drunk directly, it could help one recover his magic power, it's useful water.

"This is, for me….?"

The large lizard shook its body as if it was answering the question. The number of vials that rolled out were three in total. With this much, it'd be enough to recover the healer's magic power twice over. Thanks to the magic water, the healer was able to heal his wounds and joined the fight against the demon dogs, the fight ended momentarily after that.

Adventurers that specialize in healing are first rate even among adventurers, they couldn't possibly be compared to the likes of a trainee. After the battle with the demon dogs, the three trainees were overwhelmed and suppressed. They were to be brought back disarmed and restrained because of their assault. At first, the female swordsman wanted them to be executed on the spot, but the healer soothed her over and made her agree to let them be judged when they got back.

"I don't think they have the right to complain even if they were to be executed on the spot, right."

"If those with weak minds stay too long in the dungeon, they'll start to get out of control, it's something that happens a lot."

The three slumping trainees were sinners for trying to kill their examiners.

When they were leaving this place, the healer, looking at the large lizard that was raising a demon dogs corpse with its nose, felt puzzled about it. The female swordsman also thought it was a weird thing when she heard that the giant lizard saved her, having seen its actions they couldn't just laugh it off.

"That giant lizard, just what was it…..?"

"Let's see….. He was someone's pet once, is what I can't help but think."

Looking back for the last time, the healer saw that the large lizard was facing his way and was wagging its tail.

[So, the demon dogs got exterminated I guess~……Then I'll have to move with large lizard-kun for now.]

After seeing off the party of the two adventurers and the three sinner trainees, 'He' put the magic ingrained items in the other dimension, then he gave the control back to the giant lizard that had worked hard today. This time 'He' noticed that after he saved those two adventurers, that he had an awareness of his values of good and evil. His stored memories and a vague self-awareness are still the same as always, but he has been gaining new memories and knowledge every day.

[I hope I can get out to see the outside world one day.]

While thinking about something like that, today 'He' continued to wander around the dungeon.

———In the dungeon near the town of Barass, from time to time monsters that save adventurers appear. This was being whispered among the adventurers a little while after that.

Spirit Migration – CH03 – The light that shines in the dark [First half]

By Tensaiz

March 8, 2015

Enjoy your Spirit Migration chapter~!
I'm proofing CH4 atm, so who knows, might be another chapter today or tomorrow~
(Btw, this chapter is the first half of 'The light that shines in the dark', chapter 4 is the second part. So this is the whole chapter, and not the half of chapter 3 :V)
-Tensaiz
_____

When 'He' finished exploring the second floor, he decided to go down to the next floor. 'He' went down the stairs with the large lizard, and then met a party with quite a number of members, that's how he got hunted.

Luckily he was able to possess an earwig that passed close by, after the party had left. Afterwards, 'He' went down to the third underground floor.

[The atmosphere is pretty different from the first and second floors.]

The walls and floor didn't seem to be touched by human hands at all, and seemed more cave like, with bare rocks at the surface, only the area around the stairs looked as if it was created by humans.

Furthermore, there's a pervasive presence of something. It's not as if the presence felt concentrated, it gives the impression of some kind of encompassing existence.

[Is this the thing called collective consciousness?]

After looking around and confirming there were no monsters or humans, 'He' started to explore this floor by crawling on the wall.

Fundamentally, dungeons are things that you explore with parties, since it's said to be dangerous if you're on your own. It can't be said that all the dungeons have the same scale of danger and risk; the dungeon in the town of Barass is able to be explored safely on your own, until the second floor only. Since from the third floor onward, most monsters are controlled by the ´collective consciousness´.

"Phew, we're finally back."
"Yeah, as expected, the outside air is nice."

An adventurer's party of about a dozen adventurers had returned to town after they had gone to the third floor, which was said to be dangerous for people who go alone. They were an exploring team of adventurers who were hired by the adventurer's society with the objective of raising activity in the dungeon, because of their plan: 'Base Construction Project'.

A plan to build a base for adventurers underground. In order to find a place where they could put up a barrier, without being influenced by the dungeon, they were the ones who had to survey the vicinity.

After they had all safely returned and reported to the adventurer's society, they went back to the town that was close

by. The leader of the adventurer's party, who was eating with his subordinates at the bar, heard the current rumor about 'the monster that'll save adventurers'.

"Now that I think about it, we heard it before we left didn't we, so it was still going on."
"It seems to have been cited a lot by beginner groups at the center, well, isn't it just something that'll go into an interesting direction?"
TL note: It's a rhetorical question, he's not expecting an answer. -Tensaiz

The rumor included stories about large rats, large earwigs, and also large bats.

"Hmph….. This isn't a children's playground, y'know."
TL note: The leader is talking with an accent. -Tensaiz

The veteran leader adventurer was raging about how it was alright that the town was lively with adventurers, but because of a weird rumor, amateurs enter the dungeon for fun and copy what others do, but they have just become an annoyance to other adventurers.

Since the first floor of the dungeon had lights installed, people without even the knowledge and manners of adventurers go in for some pocket change, they also take the prey other adventurers took down, which was a clear violation of the rules.

When he had become drunk and kept complaining, someone spoke up to him.

"So you were back, Gashe."
"Hm? Yo~ Richello, Elmel is also with you. You guys are always together, aren't you."

Captain Gashe opened two seats next to the female swordsman and healer who seemed to have just returned from their job. The healer Richello was in a close relationship with the former female swordsman, Elmel, in their days at the Adventurer's School. Captain Gashe himself made a party of three with them from time to time, when there weren't any interesting jobs.

"Does it seem like your job will go alright?"
"Well, it can be said it's going alright, around the day after tomorrow we'll bring in a specialist and some workers, in order to build the barrier underground."

"Hmmm, seems like the captain role fits you well, doesn't it?"
"Stop it, I know already, that it was by my own ability."

The three began to chat with each other. 'Now that I think about it——', when Gashe thought of a rumor he heard about, he brought up the subject about some trainees trying to attack their instructors and got arrested. When he did, the two who're instructors at the school, looked at each other, and with a wry smile told him that it was about them.

"Seriously, leaving Richello aside, they really didn't care about their life if they tried to fight with Elmel."
"How cruel, to leave me aside."
"Fufu, it's because Richello is naive."

While telling about the tough situation with her severe wound, Richello told him about a large lizard that protected him from a student that was about to swing down his sword, and that it also gave him vials of magic water. A mysterious monster that saved them by jumping into a pack of demon hounds.
TL note: Changed 'dog' to 'hound', because it sounds better~ -Tensaiz

"Eh, are you serious about that? The rumor about a monster that allies itself with adventurers was real?"

"Yeah, it may be something that's hard to believe, but I'll testify, since I was there myself."

“Anyway, it was a mysterious monster.”

After hearing about its features Gashe suddenly thinks back about the large lizard that he met on the stairway leading to the second floor.

“No way, it couldn’t have been that giant lizard right…..”

From the third floor onward, the monsters are controlled by the collective conscious and will attack humans on sight. If you were to meet up with one, the most important thing would be attacking first, which was the iron law. Having learned that, he also went in to kill the large lizard in one hit, but he wondered why it didn’t try to attack at all. Because they were on the stairs and it was shifted, he thought it was because it couldn’t move its large body that well in such a place however——

“Could it be, you’ve also met it?”
“No, I don’t know. If that really was it, then I did something bad……”

He was skeptical about a monster that allied with humans, but thinking that the large lizard had saved his best friends, it bothered Gashe a little.

“By the way, are bodyguards or people who would like to help welcomed? Since it doesn’t seem like there’ll be a lot of work for a while.”
“Oh? If the two of you wanna help, then I’ll gladly welcome you.”

Returning to the topic of the base construction, it became a hot topic, about how they were choosing workers to carry things, and the people that’ll help set up the barrier for the project the day after tomorrow.

“That reminds me about that spiritualist, it’s an adventurer that’s able to not only talk with spirits, but also with the hearts of monsters.”
“Hmm? So that means it’s quite the skilled guy, I can feel the association’s eagerness for this project.”

That the monsters were controlled by something like the collective conscious, and even having found out about the collective conscious’ existence itself, was all thanks to the skilled spiritualists who went into the dungeon in order to investigate it. In the dungeon’s base construction mission this time, it could be said that he’s the cornerstone.

“We’ve already put up a temporary barrier, if it can get purified completely, it’ll be over.”

The three were discussing the size of the group they would pick, after that they just talked with each other for the first time in a long while.

While exploring the third underground floor, ‘He’ found an opened up space with marks on the walls and floor. As if to keep him away, the magic power rose, from the earwig he had possessed, he felt that it didn’t want to get any closer.

Feeling that it was similar to the barrier at the entrance of the dungeon, he guessed it was probably something like that. Having his interest piqued, ‘He’ thought of entering through the line, but because the earwig couldn’t get through the barrier, he couldn’t proceed.

[Yeah, as expected, a barrier was put up.]

Because he couldn’t enter, ‘He’ had no choice but to leave this place.

After leaving the area where the barrier was, ‘He’ passed through the corridor and encountered three demon hounds. The demon hounds were a size larger than the demon hounds on the second floor, and their fur was as dark as a shadow, as if they had decided what they were going to do, the demon hounds looked at the earwig which was an opponent they would normally ignore.

Monster that are controlled by the collective conscious don't attack someone based on looks but they attack someone after looking at their soul, and how they act. 'He' who was possessing the earwig was an 'attack target', and the earwig was seen as a 'non attack target', by seeing those two together, the demon hounds were confused about what they should do.

"Grrrrrrr……Gu~au!"

Having finished deciding, the demon hounds had come to the decision to eat the earwig, and lunged at him. The outer shell of an earwig was seen as decent armor but in front of the demon hounds' fangs it was nothing and got easily crushed, 'He' then possessed the demon hound.

Because 'He' has a complex sense of self, and is a spiritual being, he was easily able to posses the demon hound that was being controlled by the monotone collective consciousness. Unlike the mutated monsters from before, the demon hound's mind was being controlled by the collective consciousness, so its sense of self was very weak, it was mostly just instinct and nothing more. Maybe because of that, 'He' was successfully able to possess the demon hound and was able to move its body as if it were his own. But it was more like that if he didn't control it, the demon hound would just obey its instincts and just stand still, eat, sleep, or rampage, according to its instinct.

Since 'He' possessed the demon hound, the other two deemed it as a target that had to be attacked. A battle between demon hounds. It is two versus one, but it wasn't a problem at all. Why? Because if the possessed demon hound gets defeated, the one that defeated it would just get possessed.

The demon hound got killed without any resistance by the other two, and afterwards 'He' possessed one of them and got killed again. Then, after 'He' obtained the body of a demon hound, that let him move around as much as he wanted to, he decided to check out the place with the barrier he was at before.

[There isn't anything……]

Inside the barrier that pressured the demon hound's body, it looked like a normal opening of a cave and it wasn't like there was nothing at all, but the only special thing was that the floor of the cave was flattened. He understood that they were planning to do something here.

[I'll just come back later.]

Muttering something to himself, 'He' decided to continue exploring the third floor.

Along the way, 'He' met with a lot of demon hound packs and had to change his body a lot, so he decided to hide himself, run away at full speed, and sometimes launch surprise attacks in order to lessen the trouble. Because of that he learned how to walk around the dungeon, piling up experience.

He rarely saw any human adventurers, and when he did, they were on full alert and didn't let anything get close, they refused to come close.

[Since this floor seems pretty dangerous, doesn't it.]

The unchanging scenery of the dungeon with its never ending corridor. After hunting only demon hounds and a round subspecies large rat, 'He' decided to find some humans. After deciding that he would have a higher chance to communicate with humans if he went to the higher floors, he ended his exploration and headed towards the second floor.

[Speaking of which, I never did possess a demon dog of the second floor in the end—— Wait, huh……?]

When he tried to enter a higher floor, with the demon hound's body, he felt as if the movements of his whole body slowed down. Unlike the pressure he felt in the barrier on the third floor, it felt as if his power was leaving him, it

seems if a monster from a lower floor that was used to that floor's magic power goes to a higher floor with lower magic power, the monster itself also gets weaker.

[Wow~, my strength is leaving me.]

In order to try some things out, he returned to the first floor and felt that his body got significantly heavier because of the loss of strength, since there weren't any humans around, he tried to challenge the barrier at the entrance, but with a weakened demon hound's strength, it was as expected, impossible to make a single step. The barrier at the entrance was at a whole new level to the one on the third floor, it was so strong that that one couldn't even be compared to it.

After that, he went to the second floor in order to communicate with humans, but because the body of a demon hound was bigger than the demon dogs on the upper floors, and other adventurers would run away at the sight of him, having failed his communication, 'He' became depressed. He couldn't possess a random monster and leave the dangerous demon hound to roam the higher floors, while it acted on only its instincts. 'He' hadn't expected this unexpected pitfall. Reluctantly, 'He' headed back toward the third floor depressed, and decided to continue exploring this floor.

[I've gotten a lot weaker…… I should rest up this body.]

When he was in the corridor, he was attacked by wandering demon dogs, so he couldn't even take it easy. 'He' crawled into the breeding place of the rats that were its food, and gave his tired body a rest.

The large rats on the third floor, that are controlled by the collective conscious, were a whole size larger and different from the large rats on the first and second floor, their bodies had surpassed roundness. The shocking thing, was that the large rats were the standard prey to the demon hounds. The collective consciousness probably gave it that role.

After letting the demon hound eat and rest, a mysterious presence had changed the atmosphere itself with a buzzing sound. He felt that a great number of humans had come to this floor. As if the dungeon itself was a living organism, it let its presence be known, it felt as if it was warning all the monsters.

The normally breeding large rats, so they could be eaten at any time like the food they were, obeyed that presence and jumped out.

[Is it the place with the barrier……?]

—-Something was going to happen. Feeling something like that, 'He' slipped out of the hole and went to the indicated location.

Spirit Migration – CH04 – The light that shines in the dark [second half]

By Tensaiz

March 9, 2015

I was able to finish that Spirit chapter indeed~
Now, as some of you might know, we pushed out a lot of chapters these previous days, that pace will drop a little as school starts again (should be able to up 1 or 2 TNS chaps in the coming days and maybe 1 spirit), and I've got a test coming up on wednesday :V. Because, unfortunately, we're quite busy with school T_T
-Tensaiz
———————————————————————————

A little while after the base construction team passed the stairs, which lead to the second underground floor, they were attacked by a swarm of monsters. Mixed with the large amount of demon hounds, were the large rats that had surpassed roundness and only existed for the purpose of being food, even the jelly-like slimes that clean the dungeon attacked them as if to stand in their way.

"What the hell, there wasn't a welcome like this last time."

"Maybe the monsters are accumulating because of the barrier at the construction site?"

"That doesn't become a reason for the round rats and slimes to attack us."

"Wah, they're coming from under our feet too!"

While handling the monsters that just kept coming in wave after wave, they retreated to a narrow place and set up a defense line there, preventing the monsters from coming in, but in front of such a great number of monsters, they couldn't cut through them, nor could they carelessly retreat, they had fallen into a dangerous situation.

ED: Run-on sentences like this are perfectly acceptable in Japanese, and a pain to break up into grammatically correct sentences in English – so I don't, kappa. -Ishman

In order to counter this strange situation, the hired spiritualist, who was behind the group in order to protect the workers, went to the front in order to read the mind of the crowding monsters. The result—-

"The great will of the labyrinth is wary, and has a great amount of hostility towards us."

According to the information the spiritualist got from reading the monsters' minds, it seems like the collective consciousness sees the creation of the base as a threat and sees the base creation team as an important enemy, so it sent the monsters under its control to attack them.

"In other words, the collective consciousness that controls these guys is pissed off because we are trying to build a base here, right."

"To think the collective consciousness would make such an intellectual and precise response against human actions……."

"It isn't the time to be impressed, at this rate we won't even be able to reach the base's location."

If they were to reach the place where the barrier was set up, they would be able to easily fend them off, and with the spiritualist's power they'll be able to increase the barrier's output. Like that, he'll be able to purify the area around the barrier, so the monsters and the dungeon's magic power won't be able to get in, which means that they'll be able to take a break at that time.

However, it doesn't seem like they'll be able to reach it. Even if slaughtering the demon hounds would be easy, the slimes that come from below and latch themselves onto their feet, are troublesome. Since fighting and attacking them with normal weapons doesn't have much effect, the only way would be to burn them to ashes with a torch, or with the fire magic of a fire magician, but they can't afford to leisurely take care of the slimes while fighting the demon hounds.

"Crap, my spear was-!"

"That's why I told you to only use blunt weapons."

"Blunted weapons don't fit me you know~."

The spear was discarded because the tip was bent, Gashe is now fighting against them with his spare short sword. However, because of the large difference in range, he only grazed a demon hound in front of him. It was already hard to beat one of them.

"Ei! Damn it! Does any one of you have a great sword or battle ax with 'em!?"

Then at that time, behind the great number of monsters, a single demon hound appeared. The demon hound, that seemed to be part of another wave of enemies, came close to them and then used the corpses of other monsters as stepping stones, in order to jump over the vanguard and land behind them.

"Wha…….. Shimatta!"

TL: Shimatta is japanese for damn it. -Tensai
ED: HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA
TL: LOL, FUCK YOU, THAT NOTE ISN'T MINE – Tensai

To think that a demon hound could do something like that, the whole vanguard was completely caught off guard by this. At the rear there were people who can't fight in the front, along with the spiritualist and workers that were brought here in order to build the base. Even if a single demon hound class monster were to attack them, the victims would be immeasurable.

"Richello and I will hold them back! You go kill off the other one!"

Thinking that the short sword would be useful, Elmel had Gashe go after the demon hound that had jumped over them, while she took over the place Gashe was defending, and threatened the pack of demon hounds by swinging her long sword around. Richello quickly went to Elmel's side in order to support her. Gashe immediately went to the other group where the demon hound was, and involuntarily stopped moving. Let's just say that the sight before him, was something he didn't know how to react to.

"Hey, What happened! What are you standing around for!"

"W-Well that……"

Elmel, who had raised her voice in anger because of Gashe, who wasn't moving, looked back to see what was happening, when she did, she frowned at the sight. The demon hound was sitting straight in one spot. First of all, that's impossible. Since the demon hound was an existence controlled by the collective consciousness that would attack humans on sight. This has been an unchanging thing within the dungeon, the adventurers and even the

trainees around this area know that. Just why would it sit in front of a human. Furthermore, at the feet of the demon hound lay a battle axe of good quality. Of course, it wasn't something from the vanguard, and it wasn't something the other group had prepared.

"This guy, could it be……"

Seeing the battle axe in front of the demon hound, Gashe thought about the recent 'monster that would help out adventurers'.

At that time, after being informed of an unexpected wave of monsters that blocked the way of the base construction team, the adventurer's society sent a sortie of support troops who would go to assist them, they went there immediately and beat the waves of monsters. The torch of simple magicians and the powerful fire magician burned the slimes to ashes, the swarm of demon hounds that was blocking the corridor was also dealt with in no time.

"Alright, with this, we were somehow able to finish it."

"So it finally ended……"

"Don't let your guard down, the real thing starts now."

"Hahaha, we can't see which one the captain is."

Even Gashe, the one who said that he was the captain because of his capability, was now smiling wryly towards Elmel who fit the job perfectly. The vanguard of the base construction team was talking lively in the corridor filled with corpses. Seeing a demon hound near them, an adventurer from the support troops warned them.

"Oi! One of them's still alive!"

Gashe and the others put up their guard after hearing that voice, but after looking at the demon hound the adventurer of the support troop was pointing at, they dropped their guard.

"No, this one's alright."

"This one's our ally, so no problem."

"What are you saying? That, isn't that a demon hound?"

"Well, yeah, but…… haven't you heard of it? The recent rumor about a monster that allies itself with adventurers."

'Is that what it is?' The adventurers of the support troops asked, while looking at the demon hound with observing eyes, staying vigilant. Just what was it doing they thought, seeing it poking, around the corpses at the side of the demon hounds, with its paws and nose. Even the experienced adventurers like them had never seen a monster that allied itself with adventurers. However, it was true that they could see that this demon hound didn't show any intention of attacking them.

"Anyway, let's start moving towards the base's construction site for now."

"Right. I couldn't stand it if we were to get attacked by a swarm of monsters again."

The base construction team and the support troops were thinking it was about time to move. It seems like the demon hound was going accompany them.

The support troops were cautious around him, but seeing that he didn't pose a threat, 'He' was allowed to travel with them.

[It’s the first time I’ve seen so many people, isn’t it. Some of them are even ones I know.]

Among the humans he had met, there were those that had recognized him as their ally in battle, and he was happy to have made ‘acquaintances’ like that. The happy feelings ‘He’ was feeling, also influenced the body he possessed, seeing the demon hound wagging its tail happily even though it had a vicious and rugged looking body, the ones around him didn’t know if they had to feel it was charming or that they had to think it was just a bad joke.

The party reached the barrier where they were planning to build their base, so first they began to raise the output of the barrier, in order to make it a real safe area. Sometime after that, the purification ritual will be performed by the spiritualist, in order to erase an area around them from the influence of the dungeon’s magic power.

After the purification, the dungeon’s magic power will return after some time passes. What was thought up against it was, a barrier that permanently purified the area within it. It is a ritual called permanent purification.

While the barrier was being strengthened, the workers began to carry around simple reinforcement materials while building a door. The day they’ll be able to build a wall, made of firm stones, is after they’ve set up the place as a safe area, so that they can safely carry materials to it.

[Ah, it feels as if my body is getting heavier…… Has the barrier gotten stronger?]

While watching over their work, ‘He’ decided to temporarily retreat outside the barrier, since it seemed like he wouldn’t be able to move anymore if he stayed inside the barrier.

“Oh? What happened doggie?”

“Are you going somewhere?”

“Woof~” [‘My body’s heavy you know-‘]

“Isn’t it because it’s painful within the barrier?”

“Ah, I see. Cause it’s a monster.”

“Woof~” [Looks like it.]

Because of the communication between the demon hound and the three skilled adventurers,

the wariness of the workers and adventurers against the demon hound had all gone away.

“Enemy attack!”

Around the time the power of the barrier began to work against ‘Him’, a pack of monsters, that could be called the second wave, poured out from the surrounding area. The vanguard quickly got into defensive formation. Because of the assistance of the support troops and the strength of the barrier, they had it relatively easier than the previous wave.

Meanwhile, ‘He’ ended up being excluded from the place that had become the adventurer’s base, after the barrier had been strengthened. ‘He’ was on the opposite end of the corridor, where the monsters were flooding from, and was looking restlessly at the situation. In order to move to the other side of the corridor, he would have to travel a considerable distance, furthermore, he wouldn’t be able to enter the barrier and would be attacked from both sides. As expected, it would be a suicidal act. Leaving aside the question whether he has a life or not, he would never expose the body he is possessing to death meaninglessly.

[But, what should I do.]

While ‘He’ was thinking, whether it was good to just keep on spectating, or that he should go explore some other place, someone was going toward him. It was the cornerstone of the base’ construction team, the spiritualist. It seems like the spiritualist, who had nothing to do until her part came, had taken an interest in the mysterious demon hound that allied itself with humans.

Even if the warrior, who was her guard, told her that it would be safer not to get closer since it might be dangerous, Richello, who was also on standby, still convinced her after saying he would go with her.

“……? This is——“

Feeling ‘His’ presence inside the demon hound, the spiritualist asks:

“Who, who are you?”

Noticing that the spiritualist was watching ‘Himself’, ‘He’ showed himself from the demon hound’s possession. The spiritualist involuntarily gasped when a spirit like existence showed itself from the demon hound. The guard who became wary after seeing her surprise, Richello, got interested in what the spiritualist saw.

“I am a spiritualist from Eiyoa, Rindora. And you are?”

[Me? I am……]

Having a hard time answering her question, ‘He’ told her the name he was given, even though he didn’t know his own.

[I am, ‘Kou’]

TL note: Remember how he was called by the girl, when he was a bat? -Tensaiz

“So you’re called ‘Kou’? Kou, what kind of existence are you?”

[I don’t really know.]

Being able to hold a direct conversation, ‘He’, who named himself Kou, remembered feelings such as; surprise, excitement, and joy. He had never thought that a time would come where he would be able to hold a conversation, this way, it became an awkward conversation, where he just answered whenever Rindora asked him a question, but it gave him a really fulfilling feeling. Kou answered that he didn’t really know. He didn’t tell her about his old world from the pieces of memories inside his head, since he wouldn’t be able to explain it well enough.

Rindora had analyzed Kou, and thought that he might have been an information body, that was a subspecies of a spirit, born inside the dungeon. It might have separated itself from the collective conscious, or it might be a new type.

“Kou, since when have you been here?”

[I don’t know. But I think it’s probably been more than twenty days. What about it? There is a place that shows the outside, so I counted the days and night there. Actually, I think it’s been longer than that.]

Rindora focused on the fact, that even though it had never been out of the dungeon, it had knowledge about the ‘outside’ world. The light that was coming out of the demon hound, even though it didn’t have a substance, vaguely had a human form.

“You, might’ve been originally been a human.”

[Ah, I am certain about that, certainly, I was once a human.]

Rindora nodded while saying ‘I see’. The soul of a fallen adventurer might’ve separated itself from the collective conscious of the dungeon, or a monster that got fused with the soul was separated from the collective consciousness, because it had a will of its own, and was able to move by its own will. It was probably something along those lines. Anyway, it’s very reassuring that an existence that communicates with them and possesses monsters, is their ally.

“There are still a lot of things I am unsure of, but I have roughly understood your situation. I shall entrust this to you.”

Rindora took the amulet with a green stone from her own neck and held it out to Kou. Seeing that amulet, Richello involuntarily gasped.

“The spiritualist’s amulet…….”

“Wha! What did you say!?”

After having determined that Kou doesn’t hold any ill will towards them, she gave ‘Him’ an amulet that negates the barrier’s effects. If it was put on the possessing existence, he’ll be able to pass through most barriers.

ED: Green key card GET -Ishman

“Rindora-dono! Isn’t it dangerous to gift such a thing to a monster?”

“It’s alright. He will not try to harm us.”

The guard was wary, but most spiritualists have the ability to see through a person’s heart. Rindora had made certain that Kou wasn’t a dangerous existence.

Kou, who had received the amulet, didn’t put it around the demon hound’s neck, since the cord was too short, so for a while after going through trial and error, he was able to use the information in his memories about ‘implantation’, which allowed the amulet to be embedded into a part of his body.

[Let’s see……?]

When he tried to put his front leg through the barrier, with the power of the amulet, he was able to move inside the barrier without feeling any pressure.

[Oh~ I got in! Thank you, Rindora-san!]

The demon hound was wagging its tail in front of Rindora’s face. Its dark fur was like a shadow, the long and sharp fangs and its vicious appearance hadn’t changed, but the overflowing feelings of happiness that was coming from its body, made it seem like a normal dog even with its appearance.

The battle against the second wave was almost over, with most of the monsters beaten, now they only had to burn the slimes that had accumulated in front of the barrier. Kou, who had decided that he would stay here while the base was being constructed, was now directly speaking with the spiritualist, Rindora, and deepened his knowledge about the outside world.

Spirit Migration – CH05 – The Reward For The Job

By Tensaiz

March 14, 2015

This chapter is way longer than the previous ones!
Anyway, enjoy~!
New TNS chapter will be up tonight, or maybe tomorrow.
-Tensaiz
———————————————————————————

Blocking the evil magic power (because of the purification), no monster could pass through the barrier, but inside the site of operations was a demon hound with a green gem in its forehead, laying at the side.

While they were building a base where others could safely rest within the dungeon, Kou had been actively moving around, helping the workers by carrying things for them, or guarding merchants who wanted to open up a business as soon as possible. Through those actions Kou's existence became a rumor within the town, and was well known among adventurers after a few days.

Wanting to see Kou with their own eyes, more adventurers from other towns came; in order to use the dungeon in the town of Barass. The rulers of the town were rejoicing since the town's revenue had increased. However, a number of beginners got injured because they thought an obedient looking monster was the same as Kou, carelessly getting close to it. 'Then I just have to mark myself', thinking that, Kou embedded a gem (that was part of the amulet) into his forehead so he could be easily discerned.

Thus, a demon hound with an emerald jewel embedded into its forehead was established in this world.

"It's about time for the next group of carriers to come. Kou, can you check out the corridor?"
"Woof~" [Alright.]

He could just put luggage, like some construction materials, into his other dimensional storage and carry it over, but it's bad to steal the workers' jobs, so he held himself back. Only a very small number of humans knew that Kou has the ability to store things into another dimension.

"Hey Kou, you're also doing fine today."
"Woof~" [Yo, Gashe.]

Gashe had just come back from patrolling around the area with the guards of the construction site. After the site had been purified, the frequency of the waves had been lowered, now it was only once every three days —- and only a dozen or so demon hounds would come to attack.

Because of the earlier waves, the number of monsters on this floor may have decreased a lot. Leaving the barrier, Kou went through the path he was familiar with: from the construction site, towards the stairs of the second floor.

Elmel had come over to Richello's place, which was an official residence for teachers, in which he was enjoying a holiday inside the room.

"What's this, so you were sleeping. Even though it is a rare day off, is it alright to spend it lazing around the whole day?"
"I want to laze around, since it's one of my rare days off."

Being a former soldier and a sword instructor at the Adventurer's School, Elmel was doing military style sword training. Richello prepared some tea that's popular in Almes from the Eiya region and gave some to Elmel, who had wiped away the sweat she'd gotten from training in the morning, with a wry smile.

"What have you come for? You didn't just come here to meet me, did you?"

If she really visited to meet him, Richello would've been happy, but he still asked Elmel in a way where she wasn't able to tell if he was joking or not. She then proceeded to the main point.

"Fu fu, I see you more than enough, so I don't need to specially visit your room to see you…… Actually, I heard an interesting rumor about Kou."

It was about how Kou got famous because of the spiritualist's amulet embedded into his forehead, and that there seemed to be people aiming for the rare and expensive spiritualist's amulet.

"It seems like a strong adventurer group from outside of town was asking around about Kou."
"But isn't that something the spiritualist entrusted to Kou?"

"You think a promise between a human and a monster is going stop some guys that specialize in killing monsters?"
"……. It probably won't."

A monster is a monster. The treasure one obtains from a monster is his own. Even if it was something that was entrusted to the monster by someone else, it'll become theirs after the monster is killed. That is the rule decreed upon the adventurers of this world.

"Kou's existence has helped a lot with the town's revenue and the popularity of the dungeon. Using that, I'll ask the society if they'll agree to take Kou under their wing."
"The society….. certainly, rather than outsiders, they'll be more flexible about it."

Thinking that Kou also had to be informed about this, Elmel proposed that she should head to the dungeon in order to tell him, and leave the request for the adventurer's society with Richello. In fact, as for the adventurer's society and the military, the relationship is quite tentative, and the girlfriend of the former officer isn't trusted too much.

"I see, if it's like that, I can understand. I'll go to the adventurer's society branch tomorrow."
"Sorry, I always trouble you with these bothersome things."

"Your actions are always precise. I don't think it's bothersome all."
"I see…….Well……. now then, with this I'll take my le—-"

Having finished her business, Elmel was trying to leave the room like that, but she was caught by Richello. The drops of the Almes tea that remained on her lips, with a kiss, were all licked up. Her normally calm and collected expression that didn't break in front of any sudden situation, broke.

"Wha…….. Ha~a…….—— I, I told you I'm not used to stuff like this."
"Yeah, I know."

Seriously this guy! While spitting curses at her best partner, Elmel ended up staying the night in Richello's room this night in his embrace.

Close to the base's construction site was Kou, who was laying around the storage area for materials after having finished his meal of round rats, as a demon hound. If the base gets completed, it'll become easier to explore the underground fourth floor, meaning more adventurers will pass, making it more crowded.

Only a limited number of adventurers had actually gone down to explore the fourth floor. More than thirty of them

had gathered in order to protect the select few who would challenge the fourth floor, from the first floor till the third floor, this is what had been determined.

Like that, the fourth floor becomes very hard when you think about finding the needed personnel and the money problems. Even skilled adventurers can lose their lives if they let their guard down on the second or third floor. It's always important to have a perfect formation when you go in and leave. The effect that the adventurer's base on the third floor will have, is making the exploring of such floors easier.

"Oh, so you were there."
"Woof~" [Yo]

Gashe who was once again patrolling the area, had come back for his break. The magical beast dog Kou, who was lying around the block shaped materials that stood against the wall, raised only his neck and waved his tail, returning the greeting.

Because the barrier of permanent purification shuts off the magic power of the dungeon, with the body of a demon hound, it'll feel as if his strength leaves his body like on the lower floors. For that reason, whenever Kou is inside the barrier, he'll be either sleeping or lazing around most of the time.

Contrarily to his bored appearance, the person himself is satisfied with his current situation, where he is always in contact with people. Even if his strength has left him, he could still move around his soul, it also has the merit of getting used to the feeling, if he were to leave the dungeon one day.

"Ah, yeah Kou, it seems like there are guys that will come to get the stone in your forehead."
"Wooo~ Wooof~?" [This thing that Rindora-san lent me?]

"Since there are a lot of people coming from outside lately, you should watch out."
"Woof~." [Okay, I'll be careful."]

It isn't like Gashe really understands what Kou as a demon hound is saying, but he can guess it from the atmosphere he gives off. His subordinates always talk about it in the bar, 'the captain talked about something with Kou again', but there were also some who talked about the conversations that were held with Kou with a look of envy in their eyes, anyhow, Gashe was enjoying the communication-like conversations he was having. Kou himself never felt bored or loneliness at the construction site, he felt happy being able to communicate with people.

The communication between one person and one monster, within the barrier there were shadows that were observing this scene. Even though they were still in the middle of constructing it, it had become an area that cut off the dungeon's magic power, not allowing monsters inside, because of that, there wasn't an inconsiderable number of adventurers who were using it at this time.

"I see, certainly it seems like it's getting friendly with humans."
"I wonder, is it really a demon hound inside?"
"According to the information, it is being controlled by a different intelligent existence than the collective consciousness."
"An intelligent existence, hmm….. Isn't it just some artificial spell a caster made that infested it?"

It isn't rare for the ruler of the city, who supervises a dungeon, to call a group of adventurers from out of town in order to check out things about a monster. The more people come to the dungeon, the more the town's profit will go up.

Like the spiritualist that gave her amulet to the demon hound, she was hired for the sake of the base construction mission this time. It is highly possible that the famous monster which has become a hot rumor is a fabrication. That

is how they analyzed it.

“Well~, nobody cares about that. For now, that means that that stone is the real deal.”
“According to the strength of this barrier, its quality seems alright.”
“A…..Are we gonna do it?”
“Yeah, let’s just take it.”

They, who had asked around about the demon hound that was lazing around the material storage, decided to leave the area of the construction site and meet up with their comrades above ground.

The next day, Richello, who went to the Barass’s branch of the adventurer’s society, met with Rindora. She had finished her job and was planning to leave town after receiving her reward.

“Are you going back to Eioa? What are you going to do about the amulet you gave Kou?”
“I will leave that in his care.”

‘If there is a day where he will visit Eioa, it’ll be a good mark to see he’s someone I know’, Rindora smiled. Since the Eioa region has many spiritualists and spell casters, it has a lot of places with barriers set up, having a spiritualist’s amulet will certainly be useful to him, in many ways.

Richello told her about how there were people aiming for Kou with the amulet as their target, and he told her how he came to the adventurer’s society in order to request the protection of Kou’s life.

“So it’s like that. But, I think your worries are unneeded, don’t you think? Since he’s an immortal existence and the amulet probably won’t get stolen.”
“An immortal existence….. Do you mean in the sense that even if his body gets destroyed, his soul will live on?”

“You people have only seen the tip of the iceberg, what I’m trying to say is, that his existence is something larger than what you think it is.”

‘Then I’ll leave with this.’ saying that, Rindora left the adventurer’s society’s building and began her journey to go back home. Richello, who felt that he lost sight of what was important, was dragging his feet inside the society and at the same time he was twisting his head, thinking about the hints he just got.

At the moment, the only one who truly understands Kou’s form and existence, is Rindora. In the first place, the only parts that she knows of, are the parts where she knows that he can posses monsters and control them, and that he is able to put items into dimensional storage. Because of that, Rindora, who knows that the magical beast dog is only a vessel to Kou, wasn’t particularly worried about Kou being targeted.

Kou, who once again had brought a merchant party who wanted to open their shop, in the morning today; was going to laze around the material storage place, was called out to by someone who seemed to be an adventurer.

“Ehm, does he understand words?….. When I came here, I was asked by someone to give this to you.”
“Woo? Woo~ooof~? [Eh? What is it?]

Knowing of the magical beast dog that is able to talk with humans, the man brought out a small box and told him about how he got a request to deliver this to someone for a high reward. Inside the box was something filled with magic power. It was a request to deliver the box of a man at the exit of the dungeon.

“C-Can I request this?”
“Wo~of.” [It’s okay]

Kou, who had accepted the small box, ran through the corridor aiming for the higher floors.

The entrance of the dungeon of the town of Barass, it is an open place looking like a lonely shrine with a tall iron fence around the entrance, it is a quiet place with grass growing, seen from afar, it may seem like a small playground.

While Kou forgot about the warning concerning the ones who are aiming for the spiritualist's amulet, Elmel, who had come close to the dungeon's entrance, saw a number of fully armed adventurers in front of the entrance. At first Elmel thought that they were meeting up, but she found it strange that she felt their preparedness to fight. Looking at their stance and equipment, it could be seen that they were outsiders.

Feeling some kind of ill premonition, Elmel headed towards the dungeon, at that time a black shadow appeared.

Kou, who had carried the small box thought ´can I go outside?´, while nervously taking the stairs towards the surface, and for the first time he takes a step outside. His body got heavier because he didn't have the dungeon's magic power, but he was already used to it so it didn't pose any problems. Leaving the shrine-like entrance of the dungeon, he could see a pavement on the other side of the fence.

[Oh, I'm outside.]

While Kou was looking at the scenery of the town, a fully armed adventurer-like man stood before his eyes. Behind him was a person dressed like a magician with a wand in his hand, it seemed like he was muttering a chant or something while rubbing the tip of his cane.

"Alright, looks like you properly brought it with you."
[Is this the human that is supposed to receive the package?]

The moment the demon hound Kou held out the small box, as if saying 'I have a delivery for you~, thinking that the magician-like person was who was just rubbing his staff, moved and suddenly cold air came from within the small box, freezing the area around the mouth of the demon hound.

"Now! Do it ~tsu."

At the same time the man in the front gave his order, a shock wave was felt, the demon hound's head fell. The tilting black body fell over, as if it were a fountain, it spouted blood all over the shrine-like entrance and the grass around it painted it in a deep black red.

"I did it ~tsu in just one blow!"
"It's only obvious, since it got frozen."

"Oi, go and retrieve the amulet quickly!"

While hiding his body in a blind spot from the entrance, the swordsman took pride in killing it in one blown on the leader's order, which got him a retort from the calm warrior, who was the support. To the two of them, the leader ordered them to get on with it.

[Ah, so that's what it was about.]

Kou who had understood the situation in mid air reached out his hand, calling forth the amulet embedded inside the demon hound's head within the sea of blood.

The moment when they were going to begin their job of retrieving the stone from the demon hound's head—-

"You guys, to Kou……"
"Hah?"

—— The local adventurer-like person who had presumably seen their ambush spoke up to them. The leader who had already seen something like this coming, had pulled back his subordinates.

“Do you have something you need from us? Little girl.”

It was a gentleman-like response towards a fellow adventurer, but with an intimidating gaze. As if to tell her they were a group that specialized in killing monsters, he showed off his Relieve medal with a ‘war axe and snake’ on it. Medals that contain Relieve* within, are something the adventurer’s society gives adventurers if they possess a certain amount of strength. By the way, the medal they have with a ‘war axe and snake’ on it, is ranked fifth, meaning that they’re pretty skilled.
TL note: Relieve is a sort of metal that is used to produce the medals -Tensaiz

“Why, Kou…… Why did you kill him?”
“Him? We have but slain a dangerous demon hound that came outside the barrier, something wrong with that?”

“Don’t play dumb ~tsu, you should’ve known that that demon hound wasn’t dangerous.”
“Well now, could it be that you are a beginner? A monster that isn’t dangerous doesn’t exist, could you stop it with the false accusations.”

It was true that they lured out Kou, in order to obtain the spiritualist’s amulet, however you can’t say that that is a sin. Today Richello should be requesting the adventurer’s society to guard Kou’s life, but it isn’t known if it’ll be accepted or not. Supposedly, even if it got accepted, it would be hard to bring judgment upon the group of adventurers who killed him this morning.

The leader accepted Elmel’s glare with a smooth face, while sending looks towards his comrades, who were busy with the retrieval of the amulet, to hurry it up. They dismantled demon hound. From within the dungeon adventurer parties came out and became onlookers, thinking about just what was happening.

“Oi, still not done.”
“Well….. about that.”
“That’s weird, it isn’t heeeere.”

He had wanted to finish this as soon as possible, before more onlookers appeared, but for some reason, he couldn’t find the amulet.

Elmel, who was well known around town as an adventurer and instructor at the adventurer’s school, got asked by some onlookers and acquaintances about what had happened here, so she told them everything that had transpired. There were many reactions like: ‘they did it smoothly’ and those that just openly raised their eyebrows. Adventurers who had been saved by Kou once sent harsh glares towards the adventurers group.

“Any more than this’ll be useless….. Let’s fall back.”

No matter how much they searched and looked, they couldn’t find what they were looking for. In the end they hadn’t been able to obtain the amulet, and began their preparations to leave town. They probably won’t return to this town until the heat dies down. They went as far as to use an ice magic trap, yet all they obtained were some skin and fangs. Because the long fangs that were valued highly got damaged through the ice magic, it’s worth got lowered a lot. Including the costs of the local magician they had gotten to make the ice trap, they had suffered a great loss.

Since the birds and insects would get mutated if they ate the demon hound’s corpse, they silently tossed it inside the dungeon, While being bathed in the sharp gazes of the onlookers, the adventurer group left that place.

After they left, there were many adventurers, whom were going to descend the dungeon, who rushed towards the entrance to obtain the demon hound’s skin. The skin of a monster of the third floor, to experienced and skilled

adventurers like them it was equal to trash, but to beginners and normal people, it was a precious material. Normal people took it as a souvenir, and adventurers that got saved by Kou took some as a memento to remember him.

To the side of such a scene, Elmel, who was questioning herself hard to answer feelings Richello had, got interested in a single cat that kept scratching her boots with its paw while looking at her. The teachings of a swordsman, she had been careful towards animals ever since she started her training, so there weren't many times where they came towards her, thus she picked up the cat.

"What is it? Do you want something to eat?"

She asked with a gentle voice, while her face became scary with her muscles twitching. When she did—— A green stone appeared on the cat's forehead.

"Tsu….! Could it be, you're Kou?"
"Nyaaa~" [It's me.]

Elmel asked in a hushed voice, and the cat answered her.

"Nyaaa~ Nyaa~nyaa Nyaaa~aa Nya~Nya Nya." [Well, that surprised me, suddenly getting my head cut off.]
TL note: Yes, this is how I learned how to speak neko -Tensaiz
"Sorry but, I have absolutely no idea what you're saying…… Anyway, let's go to Rindora's place for now."

She had decided to ask Rindora, who could directly speak with him, but she found out that Rindora had already left for her return trip, when Richello had returned from the adventurer's guild when his request of guarding Kou got rejected.

TL notes:
Yep, that's the end of volume 0~
On to volume 1 (Chapter 6-8) out of the 17 volumes!
-Tensaiz

Spirit Migration – CH06 – The Calm Lifestyle

By Tensaiz March 21, 2015

Start of Volume one, enjoy~
-Tensaiz
———————————————

Chapter 06: The calm lifestyle

At a thriving restaurant near the Adventurers Society's branch in Barras – Within that restaurant, Richello, who was eating at a table while facing Elmel, was listening to the details of what exactly happened after he went to the adventurer's society, to request protection for Kou and he got rejected afterwards. After listening, he sighed deeply.

The society had noticed the movements of the adventurer group 'Gavik corps', but they couldn't do anything about it, because they were ordered by the town's ruler not to interfere.

Since they were a group of talented and influential adventurers, the ruler of the town didn't want to purposely anger them. Groups that specialize in hunting monsters like them, are an important existence for the security and peace of towns. More so if the group is at the level where they have the 'War Axe and Snake' emblem as proof, so they wanted to make a good impression on them.

"To think both the citizens, and the ruler had to go around to please a single group, seriously, every single one of them, how pathetic."

"It can't be helped, leaving aside lords with a standing army, this town's ruler can only rely on mercenaries for protection, to fend off bandits."

If you were to put a single friendly magic beast and a group that ensures the peace of the town and has influence in other countries together on a scale, then you won't even have to think about which one is more important. Because of things like this, the soldiers directly under the ruler, look at the adventurer's society with enmity in their eyes, or so Elmel complained.

"Well, leaving that aside…… Is it really true that this cat is Kou?"

"Yeah…… But I was also surprised, just what happened——-Kou?"

The two, who were whispering with each other about Kou, looked at him. What they saw was a cat that was controlling spilled water from a cup with his front paw, and making a picture with it on the table, this made the two involuntarily look at each other. The cat pointed at the picture that had animals and humans on it, and went 'nyaa'. Richello, who noticed that Kou was trying to tell them something, thought it would be bad if Kou did that here, so he left the restaurant and went toward his room. .

What was drawn on the paper, that was spread on the floor, were monsters like a large rat, earwig, large bat, large lizard, and an arrow connecting it all. And a human form. Kou pointed out that he was the human form, and in three steps he showed that he entered a monster.

Then, a familiar scene where a fully armored human beat two hounds. Afterwards three familiar humans were fighting three dogs. When he started to draw the picture of a large lizard giving a vial to a seated human, Elmel muttered with eyes full of surprise.

“I see…….. That lizard was you, wasn’t it, Kou.”

“Nyaaaa~”

“I understand, so this is what Rindora meant when she said that.”

Richello nodded in agreement, when he thought about how she said that he was an unkillable, immortal existence.

After that, Kou began to communicate with them using the drawn pictures to exchange information, Kou let them know what he could do and what he was, so that he could understand how much they understood about him, and in order to obtain the knowledge and things he wanted to learn in the future.

Even though it was for a short while, Kou wanted to know more about this world after Rindora told him a little about it, but he couldn’t speak, and had no one to teach him how. At this time, even though it was a trap made by those that were after the spiritualist’s amulet, Kou thought it wasn’t all that bad since he got to go to the surface like this.

“However, it’s good that we know a little more about Kou and that he got to go to the surface, but what should we do from now on……”

“I’ll keep him.”

“Eh, you will?”

Even if he returned to the dungeon, we can’t be sure the same thing won’t happen again. Being in the position of a lecturer and thinking it would be bad to go to the dungeon frequently, as if it were a daily thing, it would be better for Kou to be educated about the world like this.

“But you, toward animals……”

“I don’t have any experience, however, if it’s Kou it shouldn’t be that much of a problem. After all it seems that on the inside he is a former human.”

Elmel said, looking forward to it, while picking up the cat and stroking his fur. Until now an animal had never taken a liking to her, she, whom neither dogs nor cats got close to, had taken a liking to the fluffy feeling of holding a cat.

“……”

Richello showed a complicated expression towards Elmel, who was enjoying the fluffy feeling of the cat and Kou who was comfortably resting in her arms. Noticing his stare, Elmel made a wry smile and kicked Richello’s shin.

“Ouch.”

“Don’t be jealous of a cat.”

“Nya~aa?”

Like this, Kou started his life on the surface while freeloading in Elmel’s room.

The adventurer Elmel was teaching a cat, Kou, about the basic ways of fighting that usually get taught at the adventurer’s academy, inside her own home. From time to time, Richello comes by with gifts and goes out with Elmel, not coming back home that night. Eating together, guarding the house when nobody is home, or going to pick her up, while living such a peaceful life, Kou organizes the memories he remembered.

[It feels like I saw that bird before, that black one had the feeling of being a clever one, I think?]

Sitting at the window which is being illuminated by the sun, the cat Kou was observing some groups that were

passing by and some birds that were singing on top of a roof.

It would be handy if he possessed a bird, in order to observe the town better, but because they have a strong sense of danger towards land animals, they run away and thus, he hasn't been able to posses other animals. Since his host is a cat, it's even more difficult.

Then he tried to possess a small insect, in order to get close, but since Kou was bigger than the insect itself, it had sensed him and ran away.

"Hmm? So Kou is inside today."

"Nya~." [Good morning.]

Kou answered Elmel, who was preparing to go out to the adventurer's academy. Because of his host accumulating stress, Kou sometimes goes out through the window and just floats around. At that time, the cat will act like a normal one, so sometimes he'll go out, or he'll just sleep somewhere, living a free life.

The cat that Kou was possessing understood that Elmel, who was taking care of him, wasn't a dangerous existence. Noticing that it had nothing to fear if he was close to the powerful her, the cat would always come to this room if he was resting. Whether the cat was Kou, or just the cat itself, it was still being taken care of by Elmel.

It also seems she feeds half of them.

"Hmm. How is it Kou, want to go take a look at the training school?"

"Nya? Nya~nyanya~nyanyanyaaa~?" [Eh? Will you bring me along?]

"Yeah, I can't understand what you're saying like usual…… but I can somehow grasp what you're trying to say, just like what Gashe said."

"Unyaa?"

By the way, since the spiritualist's amulet was too big to fit on the cat's forehead, and it would actually hurt the cat itself, the trademark of having a gem on the forehead disappeared. The way to tell whether it's Kou or a normal cat, was that when it's a cat, it'll sit around or roll around on the ground. When it's observing its surroundings, or goes nya~nayanaynaynyaa it's Kou who has possessed the cat.

"You might get teased by the younger trainees, but it'll be a great help if you'll become a healing factor in between the training sessions."

"Nya~aanyaa." [Yeah, it's okay.]

Elmel thought back about the betrayal of the trainees in the dungeon exam, that because of the rigorous training, the trusting relationship between student and teacher wasn't made strong enough. And that it couldn't be strengthened because of the situation, so she thought that a mascot like existence would help with creating the image of an environment where it'll be easy to build up trust. Kou had the body of a cat, and the reason and intellect of a human, because of this disposition, he can be called a mild-natured existence.

The adventurer's training school was located slightly far away from the town and relatively close to the dungeon. Just like how there were students who commuted from the town, there are those who lived in the student dorms. The town that borders the town of Barass doesn't have a branch of the adventurer's society, so those seeking enrollment will pass the border, in order to come here.

"Wow, Is this child Elmel-sensei's pet?"

“Yeah, well, I’m just taking care of him for now.”

“Nya~o.” [Hello.]

When Elmel arrived at the school together with Kou, she was greeted with stares, as if they had seen something rare, from not only her students, but also from other instructors. Since Richello had been told beforehand, he just had a wry smile, seeing everyone reacting like he thought they would.

“So kawaii, his name is? What’s he called?”

“His name….. he’s called Kou.”

She hesitated a little, but Elmel used Kou’s name as it was. The name of the ‘Demon Hound Kou’ that died the other day had already spread throughout all the adventurers of the town, but not many of them knew of his relationship with humans, so having a pet named Kou wasn’t that weird. It had become a big thing for a while, but maybe because of the flow, there wasn’t anyone particularity concerned when they heard the name Kou.

“Sensei having a cat…… How unexpected.”

“With Elmel-sensei’s image, I thought she would have a rugged military dog, or a wild beast as a pet.”

“I know, right.”

“……. You guys, it seems like I’ll need to have a long talk later.”

It seems like the plan to communicate with the students by using an animal had immediately showed effect.

Kou, at the school, is just lazily lying at the window in the classroom during lectures, receiving lectures together with students, or just walking around the school grounds. The lecturers thought that it would disturb the school’s morals if he was kept around, but then after three days, everyone got used to it and there were no more complaints.

As if better than a normal animal, it was really clever, reacting as if he could understand human language, he became an existence the adventurer’s school got totally used to. Furthermore, Kou ended up ruling over all the cats within the school grounds.

While living such a fulfilling school life, Kou was reunited with a single trainee.

[Ah, that child is——]

In front of the classroom for beginners, was a group of female students that seemed like friends talking to each other while walking through the corridor, a single girl with a spaced out feel was with them. The one with whom he successfully communicated for the first time, the girl who lost her brooch. The human who gave ‘Him’ the name ‘Kou’.

“Ah, it’s Kou-chan.”

“Eh?”

“Nya~a.”

Noticing the cat Kou, the student went towards him with a ‘kyaa~’ and started to ‘mofumofu’ his body. Since the classes Elmel teaches, are the higher level ones, these girls don’t have much chance to touch Kou, so they began to flock toward him.

“Nina come closer, Kou-chan is cute you know?”

“Y-Yeah—— Kou-chan……”

Hearing the recently popular name that had been spreading through town, Nina got mixed feelings when she thought about the large bat she met inside the dungeon. Her childhood friend Lucabell, who had denied the existence of ‘Kou-chan the bat’, changed his thinking after hearing rumors about the ‘Demon Hound Kou’, thinking the large bat may have been the same kind of monster.

“Nya~aaa Nyanyanyaaanyaanayaaaanyanya.” [I have been keeping your lost item.]

“Uwah What? What?”

“This child is trying to say something, how kawaii~”

After getting out of the sea of female student hands, Kou walks toward Nina, he held out his front paw. Thinking about what it could be, Nina reached towards the front paw with her hand. When she did——

“Oh! This is……”

“What what? What happened?”

Her friend looked at what was in Nina’s hand, on it was a dull brooch that was a little damaged.

“Nya nyanynya~a.” [I have properly returned it.]

Kou had called out to Nina, who’s face got frozen with surprise and confusion, dodging the excited hands that were closing in, he ran through the corridor. The female students chased after him while going ‘kyaakya~’. While seeing off the commotion, Nina sighed.

“Kou-chan……”

The present she got from her childhood friend. Just why did ‘the School Cat Kou’ have the brooch she lost inside the dungeon with him. And why did he deliver it to her. Maybe, if she had a misunderstanding and didn’t drop it inside the dungeon, but in the town, she still wouldn’t have understood why the cat Kou gave it to her.

“….. It can’t be.”

Maybe because of the name, a thought she found ridiculous crossed her mind.

“The cat Kou-chan is actually an acquaintance of the bat Kou-chan!”

The cat Kou, who was further down the corridor, slipped and fell down.

Spirit Migration – CH07 – The Grey Night and Crawling Danger

By Tensaiz

March 30, 2015

Okay here is the first chapter, next Spirit chapter will be up within the next 12 hours!
As for the poll, I know that some people have probably cheated, which makes me happy and sad at the same time. It was just a poll, not like the results would be the final answer and our pace. But we really wanted to know what sort of pace you guys liked best.

Because Spirit won out at first, we're releasing 2 Spirit chapters today. The next 2 chapters will probably be TNS.
What Honor and I have decided on for now, is to try and do 3 Spirit chapters and 3 Tsuyokute chapters every month. (heh, you didn't expect that, did you?!)
Although this may sometimes variate from 3 Spirit chapters and 2 Tsuyokute chapters.
Because Spirit won at first, and TNS felt a little bit cheated, if we can't keep up the 3-3 pace, then we'll probably do something like this:
In a 3 month period -> 2 months of 3 spirit and 2 TNS, and 1 month of 3 TNS 2 Spirit. And sometimes it'll be 2 months of 3 TNS, 2 spirit, and one month of 3 spirit 2 tns.
But we'll have to see how it works out with exams etc. (After the exams it'll be moarrr)

We don't really want to fall behind on the TNS manga (1 manga chapters = 2 tsuyokute wn chapters). So we'll try to at least keep it a 2~3 chapters each month.
Also, I'm going to have my final exams soon, so I will get **really** busy for a while. But after that, in ~mid may~ I will have a long ass vacation, which means a really fast pace!

I hope you guys agree with this, it's not final yet, but I think this is the best option.
If you want to give some input, drop a comment ^^
Now, have fun reading, enjoy~!
-Tensaiz
& Honor

Today Richello came to Elmel's place, where she was lazing around. With some documents in his hands, he was asked what he came for. Not like the usual invitations, it was about things concerning the school. Kou, who was floating around the window, stayed like that and focused his consciousness on their conversation.

"It's about the joint reinforcement training camp the day after tomorrow, it seems like they have chosen to hold it at the hills in the west this time."

"I see, the west……. Wasn't it reported that there were sightings of mutated ones there, have they already been eliminated?"

"A part of the hills that is. It seems like they have decided it isn't a problem, as long as they don't enter deep into the mountain."

"Didn't the students get seriously injured two years ago because of irresponsible decisions like that?"

'Isn't their recognition of safety standards messed up' Elmel complained, thinking about the awareness the upper

echelons of the Adventurer's Academy have toward risk management.

The joint exercise training camp that is held every year, includes all students from the lowest class of beginners, to those who are near graduation. It is supposed to be a training camp like mountain camping for students who wish to participate, but it is known as an infamous event because of the injured students it produces.

However, because it is known as such a dangerous event, 'those who have experienced that training camp' is what they get to be referred to, so many wished to participate. It is certainly a fairly difficult training, but there are many that participate in order to bond and gain trust with other students. Mostly between boys and girls.

"Well~, most injuries are caused because of youthful impulses, if we stay on the lookout then it'll probably be alright."

A situation where you meet each other, while camping in the wilds. Different from normal, it's a special environment; concentrating only on a single night's experience, those with indecent thoughts slip away from the camp and go further inside the mountains in the dark. Because they underestimated it, it becomes a hassle to handle the incidents where they get attacked by wild animals.

"Hmph. On that point, I don't know whether to call you bold or an idiot……."

"Uu…….. please forget about that time~"

Richello raises a pathetic voice to Elmel, who reminded him of something of the past, with a wry smile. Afterwards, the cat that had been on his walk, came back through the window. Kou raised his voice, and said 'Nya', then he began to sit.

It seems like the cat can see Kou's figure. 'Welcome back~' while saying that Kou possesses the cat.

"Oh yeah Kou, do you want to come along?"

"Nya Nya~" [I'll go I'll go.]

"That's right, if you're there then it'll be easier."

"Nya~Nyanyanyanya~nyaa~" [I have a lot of things, like medicine.]

This day, the training camp meeting together with the cat Kou, went on until late in the night.

On the day of the joint exercise training camp – a camp at the foot of a mountain some distance from the town of Barass had been set up while the students were constructing the training field. Most of the beginners are in charge of setting up the tents, while the practical class was setting up scarecrows within the vicinity. The water and food supply within the carriage is more than enough, but the students will still hunt for food since it's in their program. There are four instructors and thirty students. The plan for those who wished to join, but couldn't participate in today's training camp, is to come with another group on a different day.

Around the time when the training camp began to take form, near where the luggage was being stored, the beginner class Nina was talking with her childhood friend Lukabell about the cat Kou, the brooch, and the large bat.

"Certainly, it is the thing I gave you….."

"Right? I also got interested in just what is happening."

Why did instructor Elmel's cat, whose name is Kou, bring the brooch that was supposed to be lost within the dungeon. Is there a connection between him and the large bat, Kou-chan, the single mystery about the brooch was stirring up their adventurer's soul.

“You there, what are you lazing around for.”

“Wha- Elmel sensei.”

Even though the construction work may be almost over, instead of seeing them helping others out, Elmel found a couple that was already being close with each other, and she gave them a warning. Nina was paying attention to Elmel sensei’s scolding, but Lukabell was thinking about the cat Kou and the brooch.

“Ms. Elmel.”

“Hm? What wrong.”

Lukabell immediately told her about the brooch, and questioned her about the cat Kou———-.

“I see……..”

Elmel nodded while having her arms folded after hearing their story. Concerning the episode about Kou’s name, using a picture to communicate, Kou told them vaguely with the few words he knew. By the way, the first word Kou could write, was his own name.

After thinking a little while, Elmel decided there was nothing wrong with telling Nina, the one who named Kou, and the boy Lukabell, so she began to tell them about Kou’s existence. She didn’t want to publicly tell many people about Kou, but that large bat, Kou-chan, was probably ‘Kou’.

Being told that the popular Demon Hound from a while ago was Kou, Nina, who didn’t think that such a thing was possible, showed an honest reaction. On the other hand, having travelled from a young age with his adventurer parents, not even being able to be compared to other trainees, and with his talent as an adventurer, Lukabell, who thought that there were still many things he didn’t know, seemed to have gotten an impact on his pride.

Around the two students, who were talking with an instructor, a practical class student came, in order to report that the construction work has been done. Having a lot of tents lined up at the foot of the mountain, they had started the cooking preparations since the training area had been secured. And the source of the topic, Kou, was——-

[Cat pu~unch! Cat pu~unch!]

Having climbed on the shoulder of the training scarecrow which had been prepared, he played with the face made of a leather helmet, and made a fierce rush of punches.

The first day the training area gets set up, part of the training camp, the real training will begin tomorrow. Around the time the sky was shrouded in darkness, in the area of the joined exercise training camp, many torches were burning brightly in front of the tents. The sight of students taking shifts for night duty could be seen. This was also part of the training camp.

“In this world, torches can become weapons when the time comes. If you can’t get one in time, you’ll have to kick the enemy and try to draw your sword——”

While walking around the slowly burning torches, Elmel was giving a lecture. If you lower your sight from the shining moon and the stars in the sky, you can see a darkness in the form of a mountain taking your attention. Inside the darkness are many forms of life that live in harmony in many ways.

The nocturnal animals that moved in the night were fearing the presence of many humans and fire; maintaining vigilance, or perhaps curiosity, many were moving through the trees to see what’s happening. In other places, they were beginning to move to another location while showing active movement.

“Alright, I’ll leave it at here for today. Be sure to swap shifts in order to get rest. That’s all.”

Having finished her lecture for today Elmel headed toward the tent for instructors, and greeted the other instructors while on patrol. In the middle was Richello, who was having a staring contest with the documents on the table, next to him was a sprawled out cat, sleeping. Kou himself doesn’t require ‘sleep’, so he’s probably floating around somewhere inside the tent.

“What happened Richello, you’re making a difficult face.”

“Yeah, it’s about the training schedule for tomorrow.”

The training camp makes use of the natural environment in the training program, the basic herb collecting, and from collecting nuts, to setting up traps to capture animals. Skills like these are basics for adventurers who have to obtain their own food, it is planned for them to train in such basic things however——

“Is there some kind of problem?”

“I don’t know if I can call it a problem, or something to worry about…..”

It was some kind of hunch he felt from the information about the mutations within the mountain. What is known, is that there are wolf type mutations that move in packs. If you go deeper inside the mountain snake type mutations will appear.

Since the wolf type wild beast that moves in packs, had been eliminated by an adventurer team, they don’t have to worry about them getting close to the camp which has many people and campfires. Since the snake type rarely comes down the mountain, it’ll be alright as long as they don’t go deep into the mountain.

“It has been confirmed that there is the prescience of animals moving around the foot of the mountain, that caught my attention.”

“Since there are normal animals here, that means that there aren’t any mutations or monster close-by.”

It can be called proof that it is safe, but something bothered Richello, something concerning the information he got from the documents. ‘Did they overlook something?’

“It’d be great if it was just some groundless worry.”

“Since your ability to feel those kind of things is high, there may be something. I’ll think about it together with you.”

——— The next day. The instructor who was on look out, came back to the big tent in order to rest, Richello and Elmel made preparations for the students’ training. In the end they couldn’t find out what was bothering Richello, so the training began as planned.

From before the dimly lit dawn, the beginner class students kept lining up in front of the scarecrows at the training field. Richello, who was in charge of them, gave commands from time to time, some students that weren’t awake yet made a bad swing and ended up hurting their wrists, so they got healed by him. The practical class was fighting one on one with each other, under Elmel’s instructions.

The cat Kou was walking around the training area that was filled with tents, he went back and forth, while focusing his concentration on the bushes. Kou, who had heard Elmel’s and Richello’s talk yesterday, was now patrolling around, in order to support the two.

[The backsides of the tents are just like the scarecrows.]

As if the feeling of hard work was being transmitted to the cat, the cat’s tail was going back and forth. It’s because of

a cat's nature, that when a bug appears from time to time, a jump and a side kick(yoko geri) were immediately made. But, Kou's mission (it's being called that now) permits no failure.

"Don't lag behind! After you've finished eating, it's to the training grounds for training! Even if you don't finish eating you'll train! Those that are late have to do 100 pushups on the spot!"

"Hiii~iiii~iii"

"Ms. Elmel is a demon."

After the early morning training had ended, the students began their breakfast and immediately began their morning training. The laid back atmosphere on the first day had been totally dispersed, the real joined exercise of the training camp had begun.

"Alright, first let's split the group based on ability. The members will choose a group leader and divide the roles among each other.

In the morning, the beginner class and the practical class had a joined morning exercise and now they would be separated. The groups shall be divided based on the capability of the students, and like that, the students began to discuss with each other who is to become the leader, and divided the roles amongst each other.

"If you've decided, then team one and two will perform group fight training, the practical class will have to guide the beginners. The remaining teams will follow me."

Leaving the group fight training teams under Richello's supervision, Elmel took teams three to five with her into the mountains. 'Now you will try to procure food or try finding herbs, and you will learn how to make and dissemble traps, you will now be guided in those things'.

Because from tomorrow onward the food will have to be provided by themselves, they are taking it very seriously.

"Can you see that cloth wrapped around the torch over there? Be careful not to go past that point. Well then, all teams, start searching!"

The students then step onto the mountain along with the command. There are a lot of useful things around, from herbs that can be used in dishes, to seasonings, and since there are those that have poison in them mixed in, they will have to be careful and sort them correctly.

"Ms. Elmel, over there is a mountain rabbit, is it forbidden to hunt it directly?"

"No, I don't mind. Those that have the skill can try to kill it."

"Elmel sensei, the cat Kou-chan is being chased by a mountain cat……."

"Hm? Ah, don't worry about it. Continue collecting without minding it."

The practical class members had begun to compete with each other to hunt the mountain rabbit, the beginner class members were continuing with collecting, ignoring the cat Kou who was happily running away from the mountain cat, which was a size larger, but had a slim body made for hunting.

[Whoa that cat is totally trying to eat me~ee!!]

The cat that was freely running around, was blowing up the leaves on the ground. Kou had left the body's control to instinct and had half his spirit body out of the cat's body, he assisted the cat with escaping from the mountain cat by putting his hand in front of its eyes.

The mountain cat was going after the tasty looking city cat, half because he wanted to eat, and the other was out of interest towards the human shaped thing coming from its body. From time to time, the strange one does something attack-like and the cat slips outside of his claws' range. Because of that, he wasn't able to catch the city cat with the speed of a mountain rabbit, but because of that, the hunt itself became fun. The mountain cat was enjoying the hunt of the strange prey.

[Neko-kun, lets run to where Elmel-san is!]

Feeling that the host was saying 'that is for the best', the town cat that Kou was riding made a sharp turn by piercing his claws in the soft mountain soil, and ran toward where the trainees were. Actually, this game of tag would immediately end if Kou possessed the mountain cat. The mountain cat seemed to enjoy it, but the one who really enjoyed it was the town cat being hunted.

——And, at that time. The mountain cat stopped moving and directed his attention towards the trees to the south, later he returned to himself and ran towards somewhere. After the mountain cat left, the town cat noticed its presence a few seconds too late, his hair stood up and he lowered his body. Beyond the trees, a cold presence could be felt from deep within the mountain. Kou, who had gone inside the town cat, was on guard until he could hear Elmel's footsteps.

"What happened, Kou?"

"Nya nya nya nya~a nyaynyaya!" [Some kind of big creature is coming this way!]

Not seeing the presence of the mountain cat that was going after Kou, but the cat going nya nya while stomping its paw towards the trees trying to say something, Elmel who thought that it was strange, focused her ears and eyes towards the trees. Then she noticed a sudden discomfort.

"I can't hear the cries of the birds….? Furthermore, this sound is…….—— I see!"

Richello was worrying about the thing he 'missed' constantly last night. Elmel, who had noticed its true form, hurriedly yelled at the students to evacuate.

"Everyone stop what you're doing and get away from this place! Run towards the training grounds!"

The students, who were thinking 'just what is happening', saw Elmel in a stance with her sword drawn, so they began to run. Elmel and the cat Kou both put up their guard. The bad feeling she had at the beginning of the training camp, when they said it would be held at the foot of the mountain, was finally recognized. Until now they didn't think about the unnatural lack of sounds from the birds and the animals, and the weird movements the nocturnal animals made last night.

"I thought there were a lot of them at the foot of the mountain….. but to think that was what it was."

"Elmel!"

Richello, who ran over after hearing about the situation from the students, stood on guard next to Elmel, where he began to observe the situation.

"I told the students to get the other instructors, but just what is it?"

"I've understood the thing you 'overlooked' last night."

The group of mutated beasts that were in the area had been chased out. But, that doesn't mean that the normal animals, that were supposed to be their prey, could increase all of a sudden.

How could it be there were so many mountain rabbits in the vicinity this early, even though they are normal animals that are careful and afraid of humans, rather than mutated beasts.

——- hearing the sound of breaking trees, a large branch with lush leaves came falling down. When the two humans and one animal looked up, a snake with a thick body like a suspension bridge looked as if it was linking the trees together with its body, and was hissing with its tongue.

“What happens if the mutations that were driven off, begin to live deep within the mountain…….”

“Wa wa……. The prey will disappear won’t it.”

The animal mutations and the snake mutation that segregated the foot of the mountain. Even if game gathers at the foot of the mountain, it’s still risky to try and hunt it. The result, the group of beasts that move together took all the prey, so the mutated snakes came down the mountain, where all the food was gathered.

Since it was a big snake to begin with, it became even bigger after it mutated. It seemed that it was even called the lord of this mountain.

[It’s Huge! It’s Long! Amazing, it seems about eighty meters tall.]

Even if you didn’t look from a cat’s perspective, Kou had unwillingly let out a simple voice while looking at the really big snake mutation, but there was no one who noticed it. The black and ash gray pattern around the trees began to slither and the snake slowly lowered itself onto the ground. Just when you thought that the tree the snake was moving on was too thin, it broke, and the snake came falling down.

“Do you have the confidence to win against that?”

“If it’s running away, that is. Kou, be sure not to get swallowed up?”

“Nya~aa”

When they said that, the two humans and one animal turned around with a twirl. and then——

“Run!”

“Retreat!”

“Nyaaaaaa!”

—- They ran away at full speed without a second thought.

TL note: Next chapter will be up in 12 hours, sorry for the cliffhanger~
-Honor & Tensaiz

Spirit Migration – CH08 – The Cat and the Snake – The dog and the Girl

By Tensaiz

March 31, 2015

Almost within 12 hours…. right?! :V
Anyways, hope you guys enjoy the final chapter of volume 1!
Quite a nice chapter, especially after the previous cliff hanger!
3 AM for me now, so I'm going to sleep finally <_<
Enjoy~
-Tensaiz
& Honor

_____

The camping grounds at the foot of the mountain were full of screams. Attacks like fireballs and ice shards were being fired at the thick body of the giant, black and ash grey patterned, snake mutation. The snake continued to slither forward, while ignoring everything. Contrary to its appearance, it's pretty fast – around the speed of a trotting horse.

If just a random beast, or a mutated beast, had appeared, then the teachers would have been able to take care of it, but when it came to such a strong opponent, the most they could do was get the students to safety.

"Don't slow down! No matter what, don't get separated from the group!"

“Those that can use magic will try to draw its attention while standing near the tents! Don’t let it get close to the carriages!”

Elmel and Richello took some of the students who were capable of fighting to try and distract the snake, the two other instructors were working to connect the horses to the carriages, in order to evacuate the students.

“Calm down and aim firmly!”

Since the target is large, it should be easy for them to hit it with magic and projectiles, but since most of the trainees still aren’t used to a real fight, they feel disgust and fear when they see the giant snake’s body and face, because of that, their hit rate was bad.

Meanwhile, Lukabell, who had the most actual combat experience, was using a self made catapult to throw rocks at the snake.

“Lukabell, you’re the most cool headed among them. Come along, We’ll lead this disturbance toward the mountain!”

“Yes!”

While Lukabell was distracting it, Elmel went behind its back towards the tail, giving out orders to aim for its head. According to her memories, this type of snake doesn’t have any poison, but since it became mutated, she couldn’t be too sure of the logic she had, so they would need to be careful in a close combat battle.

“Nya~aa.”

“Kou? It’s dangerous, go take cover together with the other students.”

All of a sudden, the cat Kou had climbed up on Elmel’s shoulder, and focused his sight on the snake as if he was aiming at him.

“You what are yo- Could it be, you’re planning to posses it?”

“Nyaaa.”

It was a mystery how Kou possessed his targets, even now, but she had been told the basics of it through drawings. ‘If it’s that then’, Elmel joined the plan in order to get Kou close to its head.

Originally, she had planned to slow it down in the mountain, and then have everyone retreat to a safe location. Afterwards they would inform the adventurer’s society and have them send out their elites in order to kill it, but if Kou can posses it like the demon hound, then it’ll be safer that way.

“Elmel!”

“Richello! Join the reinforcements, aim for the snake’s head!”

Richello, who had seen Elmel making a reckless move, casted a support type movement spell, while coming closer.

“It’s too much! There is no chance of beating it with our equipment!”

“We don’t have to defeat it, we just have to make it powerless for a moment.”

“Powerless you say…… I see, Kou will posses that——”

“Nyaaa~a.”

To Richello’s sign of understanding, the cat Kou, who was riding on Elmel’s shoulder, answered: ‘that’s right’. Since he felt an opening on the snake’s head he’ll be able to posses it, once he gets inside the range.

“I see, but if it’s like that, then you don’t have to get so dangerously close, do you? Isn’t it fine if you just throw the cat Kou on its head?’

Richello pointed out that it wouldn’t be very difficult for a small cat to grab onto the giant head or body of the snake.

“…….. So we had a move like that.”

“Nya?”

The distraction team that was lead by Lukabell, was given commands from Richello. When they had the snake’s head face their way, Elmel, who had ran behind it, threw the cat Kou towards the snake’s head with all her might.

Whether it sensed it or it was instinct, when the giant snake turned its neck, it felt ‘something’s presence’ coming at it with high speed, it opened its giant mouth that could even eat large animals in one gulp and swallowed the presented small animal in one go.

“Ah.”

“Ah.”

Elmel and Richello both lost their voice at the same time, and became stiff.

“He got eatee~een!”

“K-Kouu~uuu!”

Elmel drew her sword without thinking and moved in to the rescue, but when the giant snake lowered its neck towards the ground, it opened its mouth and a cat came rolling out. Seeing no damage, nor traumas, the cat groomed its body and looked up while crying ‘Nya’ at the snake.

It moved towards the only undamaged tent, and began to seriously groom himself. Elmel and the others got confused by the sudden peaceful scene. If the cat was currently grooming itself, then that meant Kou wasn’t inside the cat. She turned around to the snake that stopped moving.

“……..Is it Kou?’

Towards the question that was asked, the snake showed a green stone on its head as confirmation.

After that, the Adventurer’s Society branch in the town of Barass got informed of the situation, and the reinforcement they had sent out, arrived just now. It wasn’t the elites or monster hunting experts who had come, but it was Gashe and the defense corps that had arrived along with a large cage, made in order to lock up large size beasts.

“Well this is…….. You’ve certainly class changed yourself into a big one this time, haven’t you? Kou my man.”

“Hississ~ss Hiss.” [Gashe, long time no see~e.]
TL note: The snake is hissing, I hope it’s clear like this. -Tensaiz

On the ground where the injured were getting treated, Gashe was secretly talking with the snake Kou, while avoiding his subordinates’ eyes.

The ones that know that Kou is a special existence that can take over other animals, are the spiritualist Rindora, the one who spoke to him directly, the ones who have been living with Kou, Elmel and Richello, Gashe, and the trainees Lukabell and Nina who have heard it from them.

After the event with the Gauki squad, there haven’t been monsters like the ‘demon hound Kou’, so it is now known that he was a ‘different conscious existence than the collective conscious’, and it has been recognized that he had been eliminated.

“As expected, we’re gonna keep quiet about Kou, right?”

“Yeah, in the first place, there isn’t much to tell about.”

“It’s over once the guys at the top hear of this, a lot of troublesome things are gonna come to Kou.”

Elmel and the others were thinking about the citizens, and the top brass of the Adventurer’s Society that abandoned Kou. The society would probably bother Kou with another bounty on his head or something else, so they reported that they used a magic item in order to capture the snake.

As expected Kou had hidden the stone on its forehead, so that they wouldn’t find out his identity.

“Captain! We’ve finished the cage’s preparations!”

“Yeah, I understand.”

Gashe, who had answered his subordinates that were loading the cage onto the carriage, went towards the snake’s cage, and Elmel went after him. Richello said he’d help heal the injured, so he headed towards the tent.

“Let’s go, Kou.”

“Hissss.” [Yeah.]

The snake mutation was about 12 ruuka. In the metric system that Kou knows, it’s about 18 meters. Since it’s too big and can’t be moved very well, they were only able to somehow move forward when Elmel was carrying its head.

If it was seen from another perspective, it looked as if Elmel was moving forward while petting the snake’s head.

‘The snake which was subdued by Ms. Elmel’, some of the students who saw this, agreed while nodding ‘un un’.

“As expected, something like that is natural.”

“Honestly, I thought the cat didn’t fit her, but a snake would be perfect.”

“That’s truly Elmel sensei.”

“…..You guys.”

Rattle *Rattle*

The snake Kou was coiling around the cage. The results of the discussions about how to treat the snake were that the snake was to be kept under the Adventurer’s Society’s surveillance. The snake that had the feeling ‘as if it would prey on someone’, would make a good attraction.

“There’s an arena that isn’t used anymore, right? It seems like they’re making it a stage to present the snake.”

“Like always, the Society acts quickly when it’s about making money.”

Having heard the details from the guard corps through a transmission device in the afternoon, Elmel, who had half given up because of their speed, heard that they already have prepared a stage for it.

“However, is a cage like this alright? If the snake goes berserk, I don’t think the cage will be able to stop it.”

“Right, I also never thought it would be this gigantic.”

“Hisss?”

Since it’d be bad if it went berserk while removing it from the cage onto the breeding ground, Kou had kept possessing the snake, that helped them out a lot, Kou also acknowledged that. They’ll go to the town immediately, but if he’s lucky, he’ll be able to possess a bird and fly back here.

Because of that, the next morning, the guard corps were carrying over the snake on a specialized carriage and returned together with those who took the training camp to town, after that had left the camping grounds. On the way they had passed the gate and the giant snake that was loaded on the carriage, it had surprised many of the adventurers, causing them to look back at it, it was great promotion.

In front of the special facility the Adventurer’s Society had prepared, there were people everywhere, and when the snake Kou looked to the right it was ‘Kyaaa’ when he looked to the left it was ‘Woah’ and when he looked to the front it was ‘Oooh’, so it had become a great uproar.

The snake was released in the specially designed arena. The surrounding walls were spiked in order to prevent the snake from escaping. After raising its body in order to peek over the wall, it saw a lot of stairs that seemed to be the spectators’ seats.

[Well then, what will I do from here on out.]

Kou, who had the snake's body sway from standing up straight, found a small dog and stretched his body into that direction. The caretakers seemed to be clamoring about something, but ignoring them, he brought his head close to the small dog's head and Kou possessed that small dog.

[Alright, with this I'll be able to freely move around the town.]

The snake, that was released from the possession, was looking around the area as if it was saying 'where the heck is this?' and he began to move around inside it.

Having seen the snake that was docile at first suddenly coming close, the caretakers thought that the magic item's effect had probably worn off. They had braced themselves not to come close to it anymore.

Meanwhile, Kou, who had managed to possess a small dog, had left the arena which was in the middle of becoming the stage for the 'Giant Snake predation show', and was now aimlessly wandering outside the gate. This small dog had a ribbon on his head, a scarf around its neck, and his fur was well maintained.

From what he can feel from the small dog's consciousness, he knew that he had an owner. Kou, who thought that it would be bad if he were to keep possessing someone else's pet, went around to look for a replacement—-

"So this is where you were Fausta, have I finally found you?"

—— Then, he got lifted up from behind by a young girl, who had called out the small dog's name. From what he can see, her age is about the same as Nina and the others, but she had fluffy blond hair and beautiful blue eyes, wearing an expensive looking dress, her features which were young, seemed a little grown up.

"Seriously, it's bad if you go somewhere on your own, isn't it?"

"Alice? We're leaving now, alright?"

"Yes mother. I'll be right there."

A modest voice resounded from within the high-class carriage lined up on the street, the girl called Alice began to walk towards the carriage with the small dog in her hands.

"Well then, let's go."

It seems like she was the daughter of some kind of aristocrat from another town, the carriage the girl was riding on passed the town's gate and left the town just like that. Since there weren't any other animals in the vicinity, the small dog Kou left the town together with them.

[Yeah, I'm in trouble……. if I suddenly leave without telling Elmel and the others, it'll make them worry.]

At the west gate of the town of Barass, the remaining guard corps that were returning from the training camp's grounds, were jeering outside the gate. Since the nobles, whom the town's ruler was friendly with, were passing through, the others had to move out of the way because the nobles' carriage had the priority to pass the road.

"Seriously, even though we just returned from a job well-done."

"Well, there's no helping it, is there? It seems like the other party is a prestigious, noble lord."

After a while, a row of black high class luxury carriages came passing through. While showing off the fine design that was casually decorating the surface, the horses that could be seen, were from fine upbringing and a good breed.

Just how much would all of that be worth, is the merchant-like topic, Gashe and his subordinates were discussing

with each other. Then he heard the resounding sound of a dog's barking. It certainly came from the first class luxurious carriage, outside of the window a small dog's face could be seen, which made Gashe involuntarily widen his eyes.

Having seen Gashe and his subordinates from around the time they passed the gate, the small dog Kou immediately showed his face outside the window and barked. 'Hm?' and when he saw that Gashe could clearly see him, a small stone appeared on the small dog's forehead.

"Ah."

After confirming Gashe's expression, he was certain that he would tell Elmel and the others about it, Kou, together with his new host, the small dog Fausta, his owner, lady Alice, and the others, left the town of Barass like that.

TL note: Everyone in the header/pic has finally made their appearance now~!

Spirit Migration – CH09 – The Young Lady and The Small Dog

By Tensaiz April 29, 2015

I'm so sorry for all those failed estimations… q.q
My school exams kinda screwed me over, and Honor has been really busy with work.
I'm not sure if there will be another chapter this week, because this weekend Honor and I will participate with our annual karate camp! (Honor does karate too~)
But, after that weekend we'll both have a week long vacation! So we'll see if we can push out some chapters then.
And unfortunately after that week of vacation, my FINAL FINAL national exam period will start, which will be 2 weeks and determine if I pass my final year and will be allowed to go to univserity x]
So there's the long heads up / rant, go enjoy the chapter~! (Hope you guys like dogs as much as cats~)
-Tensaiz

_____

After travelling over the highway, located west of the Barass, and passing through the mountains, the city of Kurakaru comes into sight on a vast plain. It is the most flourishing town in the Grandahl region with its agriculture and animal breeding. It is a peaceful yet lively city.

The group of carriages that came into the town of Kurakaru, passing through a door which even a carriage could pass through, they finally came to a stop in front of a building, surrounded by high walls, that looked like a palace.They were greeted by rows of servants there.

"Well, we've arrived. We're going to take care of your fur after getting back to the room you know? Fausta."

"Woof."

[What a big house, does every noble's house look like this?]

Without influencing the small dog much, Kou, who had let the dog do whatever it wanted during the two day trip, raised his voice in admiration towards the house, in which the owner of the small dog, Alice, lives in.

A lady dressed in an elegant dress came down from the carriage and greets back the elderly man who politely greeted her.

“Welcome back, Milady, young lady.”

“Prepare the purchased items to be used tomorrow. But prepare the artwork in the usual room.”

“Certainly.”

Alice’s mother told the butler what had the be done and then confined herself inside her room, bringing along a maid. Alice, who was standing in front of the door while holding the small dog Fausta in her arms, asked the butler about her father, knowing it was useless to ask.

“Father is?”

“The lord has gone outside with someone of the administrative committee and has yet to return.”

“I see…… He’s also busy today.”

Alice, who went up to the second floor and headed towards her own room, stopped by a room along the way located inside the corridor.

“Welcome back, young lady.”

“Fausta’s fur has become disordered, also, replace his scarf and ribbon, Landon. The rest can be done at night.”

“Certainly.”

A fluffy carpet spread around the large room. Lots of cushions on an expensive looking sofa, furthermore, a small bed with a tent. To think that this room is ultimately a room prepared for Fausta, a dog house. It also had a bathtub for pets.

[Amazing, Fausta-kun, aren’t you a celebrity……. What was a celebrity again?]

While Kou, who was surprised by the way nobles live, was organizing his memories, Fausta was handed over to the caretaker Landon. When Landon carefully received Fausta from lady Alice, Fausta began to bark.

“That’s bad, Fausta you will be good quiet child right?”

After saying that, Alice patted Fausta’s head three times, then she left the rearing room in order to change her clothes.

Fausta, who was waving his tail until the door closed, began to tremble when he couldn’t see Alice anymore. Landon, who was holding Fausta, gently grabbed his neck as if it was normal, and carefully tossed him onto the sofa.

While grabbing the cushion, he fell on Fausta, who obediently became silent.

[What? Isn’t something a little off?]

Seeing how the air around the caretaker had changed, Kou obtained information from Fausta’s emotions and read his mind. From the pieces of information he was able to get, he understood that this caretaker was abusing the pet on a daily basis.

“Tch, how many humans do you think can be fed with all the gold that goes into taking care of a dog’s beauty.”

While muttering curses, he put the tools cleanly in order and began to take care of Fausta’s fur, while Fausta was obediently waiting on the sofa.

This Landon disliked the household he was serving. It can even be said he hated it. Only in appearance did he obediently obey his orders, but on his own, he takes out his anger by abusing the Young Lady’s pet. Because this method only helps him for a short time, he does it every day because of all the frustration he gets.

After a while, Alice, who had changed into a casual dress, dropped by the rearing room. She had planned to have a tea party with her good friend when she came back, and she was planning to bring along Fausta, who was liked by her good friend.

Fausta, who wagged his tail and jumped at Alice, who had come inside, began to look menacingly at the caretaker Landon.

“Landon, Fausta is growling like usual at you isn’t he.”

“As expected he does not like his body to be washed, it seems I can’t get him to like me.”

Landon said while smiling.

“I see…. How troublesome.”

After Alice said that, she went down towards the first floor’s hall with Fausta, who had a new ribbon, scarf, and was brushed.

After taking a seat in the garden where the tea party is prepared, Fausta, who willingly let Alice’s young lady friends pet him, seemed to be delighted. Since he’s from a family of large dogs, it seems to be fun to pet his fur while he was still growing.

[Alice is also cute, but her friends are all beauties themselves.]

Being surrounded by beautiful sparkling young ladies, Kou also began to have fun. ‘Maybe I should pet with Fausta-kun for a lttle~’ just when she thought that, a young lady that was petting Kou’s back, made an ‘ara?’ sound, she squinted her eyes at a part of the fur where her hand had stopped.

“Is something the matter?”

“This part, it seems to be red. Could he have been bitten by a bug.”

“It’s true, it looks rather painful.”

The young ladies were brushing aside the fur looking at the part that was red. It seemed like it was tickling to

Fausta. Kou, who was with Fausta, already knew that it is because Landon roughly brushed him, but he was lost as to how he should tell Alice about the abuse.

"…… Let us have a vet rub some ointment on it later."

Alice, who was petting the part that was swollen because of inflammation, lightly sighed.

The tea party eventually ended, and Alice and the others went to the mansion's first floor hall. While she was chatting with her good friends who were preparing to go home, Fausta, who had been lying in her arms suddenly jumped and began to run.

"Otototo, It's dangerous if you jump like that Fausta."

"Ah, Zerodo. Is it time for the garden's maintenance?"

"Yes, young lady. it is time to plant the seeds for the next season."

Zerodo, a young servant who takes care of the garden. Although a little thin, Fausta still had taken a liking to this young man with a kind and simple air around him. Eventually, the carriage's preparations were done, so Alice left Fausta in his care and went to see off her good friends.

"Woof, woof."

"Alright Alright, I'll lift you up in a minute so wait a little."

Fausta was standing on his back paws and leaning with his front paws of Zerodo's knee, wagging his tail. So Zerodo took the usual treat out of his pocket. The reason why Fausta likes him this much, is because he always gets a treat if he does this.

"It's a secret from the Young Lady okay?"

"Woof—— Woofwoof."

[“…… Hmm? Wasn’t it bad to let a dog eat it.]

Seeing Fausta eating the raisin filled candy, Kou thought about the ‘things that dogs may not eat’ inside his memories. Even so, the memories he has are from a different world. The common sense of this world may be different. However—-

[What might it be? Even though you look so happy, Fausta…..]

Zerodo’s eyes, that were looking at Fausta who was eating the candy, looked like those of the caretaker Landon’s eyes.

Thinking that, Kou let out his spirit body and focused his mind on Zerodo’s words. The words of this world are understood by Kou, who understands the will behind the words said, he can read the faint thoughts that are emitted together with the words that come out of one’s mouth.

“Is it tasty?”

Zerodo gently whispered that. The feelings that came with those words, he picked up the spilled thoughts from them.

——You’re still alive and kicking, even though I mixed it with something that was bad for a dog’s body…….. I guess I’ll have to put some more in it——

[……]

The true intentions he read from Zerodo were that since he can’t disobey the young lady and the earl, he decided to direct the hate he feels, towards the young lady’s pet.

Actually, it isn’t just him or Landon, during the tea party, he was able to feel the hate of the servants towards the young lady, Kou found it strange. All servants say the things they think in secret.

He couldn’t find anything particular to hate about the young lady Alice during the tea party with her good friends or during the two day trip from the town of Barass.

Fausta saw off Zerodo, who petted his head and went to the garden after eating the treat, afterwards, the young lady had returned to the hall and he looked at her.

[Hmm, Maybe the fault lays at the parent?…….]

The young lady Alice picked up and Kou, who was inside Fousta again, who folded his arms and began to growl.

Around the evening.

Because of lessons, lady Alice had to drop Fausta off at the rearing room. Fausta was wagging his tail in front of the door. Kou can feel his will to appeal to Alice not to leave him.

“Well then, I’ll leave his dinner to you.”

“Certainly.”

However, Fausta’s intentions weren’t transmitted, and the door was heartlessly closed. Fausta began to tremble more and more when the sound of footsteps became fainter. Landon had dropped his smile and expressionlessly looked down on him. And when he slowly pulled his foot behind him—-

“Well then—— Get moving.”

When he said that, he kicked Fausta’s side. With a small whimper he tremblingly began to walk, then he was once again kicked on the ass and was sent flying to the bed, he hid inside the blankets as if to hide himself, trembling in fear.

“Hmph.”

Then Landon began to prepare the food after snorting his nose once. That made the trembling Fausta’s ears and nose react. Eating high class food, it seemed like the fear from the abuse he got was gone for a moment because of the food. His gaze was glued on the silver food plate. He rang a bell that the food was ready.

Since the time he was being taken care of by lady Alice alone, he was thought that this was the sign that the food was ready.

Fausta began to eat in a hurry. When Landon passed him while he was eating, he began to instinctively growl at him. Maybe because that annoyed him, Landon lightly sent him flying. However, Fausta, who didn't like his meal being disturbed, began to menacingly growl at him.

"Don't growl you fucking dog and eat already."

Landon, who clicked his tongue, said that, and kicked him again. Then Fausta's echoing scream resounded.

"Ha, What's wrong."

He got hit on a wrong place. At Fausta's sight after he got kicked, he saw his front paw was missing a nail. The result, the nail broke at the base.

Landon was panicking because of Fausta's cries.

"What happened all of a sudden, even though something like this never happened before."

Landon, who was looking at Fausta's body while panicking, thinking that he shouldn't have kicked him so hard, noticed the broken nail and clicked his tongue. Then lady Alice came running after hearing the cry. Besides the servant maid, and butler, there were also two male guards that came along.

"It seems like he got hooked somewhere, the nail seems to have been broken……. I am sorry."

Landon lowered his head while explaining it like that. Fausta tremblingly put his front paw in front of him towards lady Alice.

"In other words, it means that the reason is because of the maintenance that had occurred."

"…….. I apologize."

Alice, who silently watched the bowing Landon, looked back at a servant in the hallway and ordered 'bring a vet now'. The maid lowered her head and left, also she ordered a butler to bring some tools.

"Tools…… You say?"

"Yes, something like a hammer will do."

Fausta, was whimpering at Alice's feet, and Kou inside of him was wondering what she would need a hammer for. While questioning himself, he was watching his surroundings. Then when the butler came back with the tools, lady Alice says that Landon has to pay the price for the nail that hurt Fausta and ordered one of the guards.

"The right hand's middle finger okay."

"….. Huh, Milady!"

The stalwart guard restrained Landon. It means that he'll hammer his finger like the broken nail. Landon began to beg for forgiveness with a pale face. The butler who had brought the tools, brought the hammer to the stalwart guard.

[Aaaah, is this the cause of it all?]

When Kou goes inside Fausta to possess him, he raised his other front paw and did as if he had a hard time moving and went toward where Landon was. He went toward the hand that was held to the ground and began to bark in protest.

"Fausta?"

"Kyu~un."

Towards that action, everybody in this place found it weird. As if all emotions had left her face, Alice who looked like

a doll, because of her looks and cold air, looked into Fausta's small round eyes.

"Isn't the reason why your nail broke because of this caretaker Landon's negligence?"

"Ky~un."

"Are you saying I should forgive him?"

"Woof."

While being surprised at Fausta who was reacting as if he was understanding her words, Alice could feel her emotion emerging from her coldness.

"….. I see, if Fausta says it."

The guards, the maids, the butlers were all surprised at the small dog Fausta's actions, but the one that was surprised the most was Landon. It has been more than a year since he began taking care of him. He was suspicions whether Fausta really did that in order to protect him or not, but the small dog hadn't taken an action like this before.

Eventually, the maid came over to inform them that the veterinarian had arrived. While she showed a confused face over the strange air in the room, the butler whispered what had happened to her.

"Be thankful to this child."

Alice who had picked up Fausta said that to Landon, and then left toward the parlor. Landon could only watch them leaving while being dazed.

After being healed by the vet, 'the pain will fade in two or three days' is what he told them after he had removed the nail and bandaged it so he won't lick it, then together with Fausta Alice returned toward her own room.

[So this is Alice's room.]

As expected of the young lady's room the luxury and space couldn't be compared with the rearing room, Kou

thought that while admiring the room. The maids that are on standby in the waiting room appear in order to take care of her, but Alice dismissed them and goes inside the bedroom.

In the midst of this large mansion this was the only place she could calmly think about things. Sitting on the bed and putting Fasta on her knees Alice breathes out a small sigh.

“Is your paw alright?”

“Woof.”

“….. You, you are Fausta right?”

“…. Woo~oof.”

To the appearance of the small dog who let his gaze wander, Alice made her eyes go round and lightly laughs. It was an angel like smile. She looked at herself thinking that she was probably tired. That she was already, since long ago tired mentally.

In fact, lady Alice knew that her pet was being abused, she also knew what most of the servants thought of her in the shadows. She still hasn’t noticed that the young gardener had been giving bad treats, but she knows that he hates her father who is his boss.

“Did you know Fausta, that I had steeled my resolve for today?”

Against the servants that harbor malicious intent toward them, they will forgive them if they make a simple mistake, but if they make a mistake when they like today when they were abusing the pet, it is decided that they would be punished in a similar manner, today she had resolved herself for that.

Fausta’s broken nail was supposed to be the trigger for her to start punishing them.

The girl that was still in a young period, she could no longer put up with the ill intent and maliciousness towards her and her parents and act as if she hadn’t noticed it. She also couldn’t think of living like her mother, locked up in her

room all day long.

Then, she thought that the only way was to make them understand where they stand.

[So it was like that.]

Kou, who had understood Alice’s true feelings after her inner monologue, somehow wanted to do something for the girl who was isolated inside the mansion. With the knowledge cultivated together with the adventurers in the town of Barass and his memories of the other world, he began to think what the he and the small dog Fausta could do.

[First I’ll have to find an ally for Alice inside the mansion, him I guess.]

Spirit Migration – Volume 2 – CH10 – The problems of the Diretoss family

By Tensaiz June 22, 2015

Rejoice!
For the long awaited Spirit Migration chapter is here!
On the special occasion that also happens to be the anniversary of the re:translations group!
Enjoy this long chapter (it took a while)
And enjoy the pleasant news at the bottom of the chapter ^~^

Enjoy~!
(The walls of text are getting shorter everytime, what's happening to me?!)
-Tensaiz
————

—-Before dawn. Inside Alice's bedroom, the small dog Kou, came out from under the sheets, jumped off the bed after pulling the sheets over Alice. After dinner last night he had slept here, instead of inside the rearing room.

[Well then, first things first, let's gather some information.]

The first thing Kou did, while thinking about the adventurer teachings Elmel and the others taught him, was to gather information, in order to prepare for the next important step. From all the people working inside this mansion, everyone until the head maid, he would meet all the servants and try to understand their thought processes, to finally select who Alice's allies are.

Kou, who was moving through the room while limping with his front paw, peeked into the servants' preparation room. This place has a small kitchen and is used for preparing tea, it's the place where the servants eat their food. It's also connected to the waiting room where the special servants are.
Inside the preparation room a single servant was preparing tea, I had a feeling I have seen that teacup before.

[Alice's cup of tea she drinks in the morning maybe?]

Suddenly, feeling the stare the servant turned around, then her eyes met with the small dog´s Fausta´s who looked as if he were peeking through the door with his head. Seeing that lovely gesture the servant smiles and lightly bows her head.

Kou answered by waving her tail back and forth. Thinking that this person doesn't have any ill will towards the young lady Alice's pet, he continued observing, then, when the preparations for the tea had been finished, the servant kneeled down on the floor picked up some dust, and threw it into the teacup.

[Oh my……]

Kou, who had checked that person in the suspicious category, went away from the preparation room, he returned to Alice's bed the same way he left, by walking with his limping front paw. Even though his front paw was in a crippled state Fausta's body had high specs, so he could just jump on the bed with a pyo~n. Maybe, because of the shaking when Fausta jumped on the bed, the sleeping Alice began to open her eyes.

"N….. Faus…..ta?"

“Woof,” [Good morning.]

Alice, who was stroking the cuticles of her beloved dog with hazy eyes, remembered what happened. Together with waking up, her conscious hardened. When she was talking about the worries she had piled up inside her chest to her beloved dog Fausta, the one who answered was another existence. Tthinking that it might have been a dream, she cautiously spoke out that name.

“…… Kou?”
“Woof.” [Yup.]

Last night, with the help of words and pictures, Kou was able to tell her that he was an existence that had borrowed Fausta’s body and that he wanted to help Alice by finding allies for her.

At first, she was wary of the existence called Kou. When she saw her beloved dog pick up a pen and paper from the table and began to draw pictures and write words, she remembered the rumors of the ‘Demon dog Kou’. She was an intelligent girl so with a little interaction she was able to understand Kou’s situation, and determined that he wasn’t a dangerous existence. At least, that he wasn’t an existence that had any ill will toward her. It seems she was relieved to hear that Fausta’s conscious still existed.

At the time Alice was half smiling because she had confirmed it really wasn’t a dream a servant came in with the morning tea to wake her up.

“Good morning, young lady Alice.”

[Ah, so she already came.]

It’s not as if it’s been poisoned, however, it’s not as if I can let her drink it, knowing that there’s dust from the floor in it. Kou stopped Alice’s hand that was going to pick up the teacup by placing his paw on her arm.

“Fausta?”

When he put his front paw, as if to say don’t drink it Fausta, Kou silently kept staring at the servant. The servant that made a surprised face then had an uncomfortable look on her face. After looking at Fausta, Alice looked at the servant and put down her tea.

“It is alright for today, stand down.”
“Y, Yes…… Young lady.”

The servant backed off awkwardly while her face had become blue from Alice’s glare. Seeing her off, Alice, who looked at Kou wanting an explanation, suddenly had a single sheet of memo paper appear in her hand. On the memo were the words ‘there is floor dust in the teacup’, there was a drawing of a servant-like person picking up something from the ground and putting it inside the teacup.

“…… I see, so that is how it’s like.”

From time to time the inside of my mouth had been a little crunchy, but to think that there was such an harassment, is what Alice said while being in a depressed mood in the morning. With a poof the memo paper that was on the bed, disappeared and in its place a piece of memo paper with ‘do your best Alice’ written on it appeared.

“Fufufu, I won’t lose. from today onward let us both do our best.”

Alice, who had regained her spirit, smiled at Fausta. Kou went out of her bed thinking it was about time for the maid to come.

By the way, about the transferring method of this memo pad, Kou, who was trying to open the ink bottle, temporarily

transports it to the dimension where he resides and then opens the lid of the ink bottle. Then after he takes off the lid, he returns it to its previous position and every time he does, the ink bottle on the desk gets spirited away, it was the method which was noticed by Alice, while retorting on it.

“I do not know what kind of trick you are using, but if you can take the ink bottle with you, why do you not also bring pen and paper?”
[Ah, I see.]

—— Is what happened.

Alice’s father, count Bamisto, has been busy with work and has been out since yesterday for the administrative meeting, her mother has locked herself up in her room, today, yet again, Alice finishes her breakfast without even having seen her parents. It seems it has been years since the family of three had eaten together, without showing it on her face she yearned for the old days. Shaking off such a feeling, Alice, who came out of the dining room, called the butler that was at the door.

“Sebas.”
“Yes, young lady.”

“I want a list of the servants that work for the mansion.”
“That is…… there is a separate book where I can copy it upon, which can immediately be prepared.”

Then do that, and give it to me. After telling him to bring it to her room when it’s done, Alice returns to her own room. The lady Alice has a different air around her than usual. The butler Sebas who had heard of what had happened yesterday in the rearing room, was wondering just what the young lady was trying to start.

Meanwhile, Kou, who was letting Fausta eat inside Alice’s room, was writing on the memo pad on the course of action he was going to take in the future. At the current stage there were only three of which he knew that were in the suspicious category. The caretaker Landon, the gardener assistant Seldo, and the servant from a while ago. In other words, it’s to wait and see which servants have ill will at the time of the tea party. Anyway, I will go and observe all the people inside this mansion while checking what kind of people they are, but in order for that to happen, I will need to be able to move freely. I will also need Alice’s cooperation.

[The first thing will be to secure a safe zone right.]

First of all, I will have to start with a familiar place, I will have to look into the conscious of Alice’s personal maid to see who is an ally. I will have Alice stay out of her room for the day, then I will go outside of Fausta and float somewhere inside the room, I will ascertain what the servants will do in a room with nobody inside it and sort out the ones that can be trusted. Anyhow, because of the wounded front paw, I can’t walk around the mansion in this bandaged body.

It will take about three days to flush out all the people with ill will around Alice, with small changes I will replace the personal maids and servants of Alice with allies. The list of personnel that Alice got from the butler proved to be quite useful. And——

“It looks alright doesn’t it.”
“Woof.” [It does, right.]

“In my absence, please look after Fausta too.”
“Woof.” [Okay.]

Since the pain in the front paw had subsided, the bandage on Fausta was removed, so Kou decided to start the serious investigation. Alice, who had obtained an environment where she could spend her time in peace, seems to

have an easier time showing her feelings. Today seems to be the day for the weekly school where the aristocrats go.

Alice visited the raising room for the first time in four days. While going to school, or outside, she will have to leave Fausta at this place. Landon, without having been fired, has been observed since that day. Landon nervously greets the young lady. Inside the small dog, Fausta's conscious has been put far into the back, so right now Kou is controlling the body.

"Always keep the door of the room open, do not interfere with Fausta leaving and entering."
"Y, Yes……. I understand."

"Well then, I will be going Fausta. "
"Woof."[Have a safe trip.]

Alice ,who patted Fausta's head once while smiling made a small wink that only Kou understood, headed to the school for aristocrats.

[Now, Let's get started.]

Leaving Landon aside, who was wondering what to do, Kou started to take action to investigate by walking through the mansion. Seeing Fausta that immediately left the room, Landon saw him off with a face full of complex emotions.

The maids were cleaning the first hall floor and the butler wasn't inside the waiting room.

[Yeah, I wonder where he went.]

While Kou was walking through the hall where the servants' rooms were, a maid, who was cleaning, saw him peeking into the butler's waiting room and said 'if it's the butler-san then he went to the garden'. Of course nobody thought that a pet would come to look for the butler. But since it looked like that, it was still tried to call out to him. The maid only said it with a smile because it seemed interesting, but then they saw Fausta go 'woof' and headed toward the garden

"Just now, did it understand what I said?"
"Dunno……. but it seemed as if he was answering didn't it."
"But, a doggy needing something from the butler-san?"

The maids were nodding yeah.

While moving towards the garden, I met Seldo who had just finished maintenancing the garden. He is an individual that I had checked as suspicious.

"Hey, Fausta. Looks like your paw's already healed."
"Woof."

The attitude he has toward Fausta is always the opposite of how he acts which seemed a little weird, but while I was injured I was always at the young lady's side. It felt as if a lot of time had passed and this was our first time meeting each other again after a while.

"Here have some treats."
"Woof."

Fausta waves his tail like always. While Kou was controlling him, he could feels Fausta's intent of wanting to eat it, so Kou told him 'it's bad if you eat this you know'. Is Seldo who gives candy bad? He hesitated. Rather, it might be because the young lady was persistently telling him not to eat things others give him. While he was thinking something like that——

“Woof woo woof.”[Hey Seldo.]
“Eh?”

“Woof woo woof woof woof woof woo woof.” [You better stop doing things like this.]
“Fausta…..?”

Looking back towards the hallway, Fausta was barking as if he was trying to say something. Even though it was just a small dog’s barking, he somehow felt as if he was being admonished and lowered his head. Fausta’s voice that had Kou’s will infused in them gets unconsciously absorbed by people that hear it. Because he had always looked at the small dog Fausta as a tool for revenge, he became buried with guilt and groaned when he was forced to acknowledge Fausta as a single living being. Actually, he was originally exactly as how he acted and wasn’t the type to do such things. Once he remembers the guilt inside his consciousness, he became an old man who was tormented by endless guilt and became severely depressed.

“……. Lima…… What am I supposed to do….”

Leaving Seldo, who seemed to be thinking about something, Kou exited the garden.

Unlike the large garden in front of the mansion, the back garden was a big place with a calming feeling to it.

[Now where is butler-san?]

While walking amidst the numerous well tended trees flowers and flower beds, Kou felt a human presence in the gap between the fence and the mansion so he went that way.

“FUMO, young lady Alice you say.”
“It somehow got me interested.”

“Impossible, I don’t believe that the young lady would start investigating.”

—Hearing such a conversation, I peaked over the wall and then, I was met with the butler Sebas and the gardener gramps who was putting on a complex face.

[They are talking about Alice?]

Sebas had an understanding of the current situation of the Diretoss house and his heart was hurting by seeing the young lady and the mistress’ situations. The gardener Halbad, who is good friends with Sebas, also moved around a lot because of that, from time to time, the two of them ask each other for advice.

The head of the Diretoss house and the ruler of the land of Kurakaru, count Bamist has a good personality, is a hard worker and is a caring person. And yet why does a certain part of the servant personnel hate him. It’s understood that it is because of misunderstandings and accusations and bad publicity. The two of them were trying to get a hold of the main culprit, however, they weren’t able to find anyone specific.

“I think it is one of the nobles of the executive meeting, but I can’t get a hold of his tail.”
“Because it is a gathering of greedy foxes. If it was poorly handled it wouldn’t end too well for them.”

Because it seemed like a conversation with a lot of important things being said, Kou decided to get closer and made a single step. When he did, without having even made a sound ‘who is it’ the two of them said that, sensing his presence and turned around. They don’t seem to be just a gardener and butler.

“Oh, it is Fausta isn’t it.”
“The young lady had school today didn’t she. Now that I think about it, Fausta was also making strange moves right?”

Halbad told Sebas about the rumors that were going around among the servants about Fausta. Things like; ‘suddenly something appears and it seems to be Fausta observing the servants doing their work’, or ‘if you do anything weird, he reports it to the young lady’. It’s not as if he’s a high level magician’s familiar or something, he said, while shrugging his shoulders.

Kou picks up the butler Sebas and the gardener Halbad’s thoughts and tried to see their true intentions.

——Fausta needs to grow up quickly, then he will be able to protect the young lady Alice both mentally and physically ——
———It looks as if he has become smart because of something, well as long as he can become the young lady’s strength then everything’s alright——

[It seems like these guys are allies.]

Without doubt I am able to pick up that these two are the young lady’s allies from their thoughts. While Kou was thinking about gaining their cooperation, Sebas and Halbad felt discomfort from Fausta who just kept staring at them as if he was observing them.

“Hey, is this small dog really the young lady’s pet Fausta?”
“That is how it is supposed to be however….”

Making sure that there weren’t any other people around, Kou moved near the two of them. The action of looking around his surroundings and the way he moved looked humane, their faces had a more and more dubious look on them.

“Alice I want to save, help I want.”

Sebas and Halbad who looked at each other.

“You, just what…….”

“My name Kou, Alice, friend.”

According to Alice’s explanation, he had to find out the abilities and circumstances of the servants, so Kou had requested the two of them for their cooperation and to provide information.

TLnote: I don’t have a single clue about why he’s suddenly able to talk ._. -Tensz

———- Meanwhile, the school for nobles Alice goes to.

Alice is enjoying her conversations with her good friends. To Alice, who was brighter than usual, her friends thought something good had happened and became interested.

“Hey young ladies. Is everything going well?”
“If all of you are okay with it, how about having dinner with us? Next times too, if it’s possible.”

“Well to say something like that, in a place like this.”
“What disrespectful gentleman.”

The young ladies were going ‘KYAAA KYAAA’. This is a normal occurrence that happens near the nobles’ school building. For the young ladies, who were normally bound by etiquette rules, the freedom of interaction the school allows becomes a good breather for them.

“Alice you will come too won’t you?”
“Ah, Sorry. I have something to take care of today so I need to go back home quickly.”

Alice says that and apologizes, then after she had refused the invitation to the dinner she made preparations to return home. Even though she usually seemed as if she didn't want to go back home, her good friends began to whisper to each other that as expected something good did happen.

Arriving at the carriage, Alice had put her impatient feelings in order. I want to quickly return and talk with Fausta Kou about the problems inside the mansion. Because she was able to make a clear ally and get a clear target, the dark clouds that were over Alice's heart had been swept away. Overflowing with the will to live, it made her mood good and excited.

"…….UFUFU. To think I would experience such feelings, even if I thank him it won't be enough."

Alice felt elation to the things she hasn't felt the past few years.

——-

TLNOTE:
Naaawhhh, isn't that cute?!
Happy birthday for Re:Translations (21st of June)~
As a present, another Spirit chapter will be upped tomorrow~! (Giving presents is always better than receiving eh?!)

P.S
It was actually our plan to release 2 chapters today because of the anniversary and stuff….
But well, I received this picture:

along with the text; "I'm sorry, I'm too lazy! I'll send it tomorrow!"
The sender so happens to be the most important guy of this group…
Now who might've sent it?
Also, in his defence, if the roles were reversed, the same would've probably happened :v

Woops, it seems the wall of text is now at the bottom of the chapter instead of the top ._.

-Tensaiz

Spirit Migration – Volume 2 – CH11 – Swirling Circumstances

By Tensaiz June 23, 2015

Hey guys, here's the second chapter just as promised! (and it's longer than the previous one ^^)

Enjoy this chapter of house of cards!
Ehh, Spirit Politics*
Wait, it's Spirit Migration*****

(The wall of text continues to shorten, maybe I should take a long break again so I can increase the wall of text….)
-Tensaiz

_____-

The first place Alice headed to after she arrived at the mansion was the raising room. But Fausta wasn't there. According to Landon, who was waiting in the room, Fausta had immediately left the room after she left for school, and still hasn't come back. For now, I need a change of clothes, thinking that, Alice went to her own room.

"He isn't here either."

Becoming a little anxious, she went to the hallway, then a maid who was cleaning said 'if you are looking for Fausta-sama, then he's in the garden'. Even though it was a small matter, this is a show of the results of the action Alice took. If it were the previous personnel then they wouldn't have told her, even if they did know, also, even if they did tell her, the chance that it would've been a lie was high. Alice thanked the maid and headed towards the garden.

"Fausta?"

"Woof."

Alice, who had arrived at the garden, found Kou together with the gardener Halbad and made a puzzled face. In reality, Alice wasn't good at dealing with this gardener. His scary face is one thing, but one time when Alice was a child she had plucked some flowers from the flowerbed and got scolded by him because of it, so she decided not to get too close to him.

"Kukuku, ya still mindin what happened that time? Young lady Alice."
"W-Wha…… just what might you be talking about."

"WAHAHAHAHAHA!"
"What are you laughing at! Don't you know that's rude!"

"Woof woo woof." [This person is an ally you know.]

Kou ran towards Alice, who was vigilantly moving backwards towards the edge of the garden, he showed her some memo scraps only she could see. On it was written that the gardener Halbad and the butler Sebas were reliable allies. By the way, Sebas had some work to do inside the mansion so he wasn't here. While vigilantly observing, Alice decided to trust him since Kou said so.
'What's going on with Young lady Alice who is holding Fausta?' Not knowing what they were talking about, Halbad confirmed that they were done talking and asked.

"Just what kinda existence is the Kou that is inside of Fausta?

“Eh? You know about Kou?”

Halbad said that he had heard the rough explanation. From his tone, Alice had understood that Kou hadn’t explained his situation in detail, so she lied to him and said , I do not know much about that. Lately he suddenly started appearing from inside of Fausta.

“Hmmm, could it be the young lady has a talent for sorcery or magic.”

Knowing that he had been lied to, Halbad sadly muttered that sentence. Basically, in the position of upper aristocrats like Alice, the only contact they have with adventurers is as an employer. There are nobles that take the initiative to become adventurers themselves, however, they are normally seen as irregulars.

The conversation stopped, and then Halbad told Alice, who began to fidget around, with trembling shoulders:

“Well you still thinkin’ ‘bout the flowers?”
“I-I told you it wasn’t like that!”

“Woo woof.” [You’re on good terms right.]

After that, they talked with the middle aged gardener of the things that were happening over the years, after hearing that he would fully cooperate with improving the situation inside the mansion, Alice returned to her own room and talked with Kou about the information they had obtained and what they understood of the current situation.

“As expected, it has something to do with father’s work.”

The bad rumors surrounding Count Bamist are being spread among the citizens and rather than it having started from them, it was one of the town’s rulers who has a grudge against him. Sebas and Halbad had been moving around in secret and have gotten hold of some leads.

Those who work inside this mansion are mostly those that come from families with a big farm, or from merchant households that were originally wealthy. Thus many of them had a good life. Because of some kind of circumstances, they lost, so they had to let go off their land or some kind of trading failure which caused them to lose business. Those who were wandering around were accepted to work here. As citizens of the town of Kurakaru, they were hired here because they had lost their livelihood even though they originally had a good life.

Then just why do we have to get hated by such people. It seems as though they think that the reason they lost their wealth was because the count had pulled some strings from the shadows. Specifically, they think it was in order to increase his power within the executive council and to increase his own wealth by taking their property over by pursuing illegal means.

“And the ones in father’s line of work were the ones who orchestrated this…….. is what it comes down to, doesn’t it.”
“Woof.”

The reason why the count hired them is because he wants to have them within arm’s reach to monitor them or to keep their family in check, is what they think. Also they think it is in order to let the public know that he is doing something good.

Sebas and Halbad had found out that someone was pulling the strings from the rumor: ‘Count Bamist’s ploys’. It seems that there is a ringleader within the executives gathering, who, together with other members, is making the count take the blame for it all.

Alice understood that as long as he holds the position as the ruler of the town, that there will be people who will envy or hate him because of it and will hold a grudge. Therefore, she was somehow able to understand that it was natural for someone to hold animosity towards her father because of his work, but she never thought that something like that

would happen because of misunderstandings and accusations. A ‘good’ politician isn’t necessarily a ‘nice’ politician or that is what Hlabad said as an example.

“If I take you there with me…….. I wonder if we would be able to understand something.”
“Woof?”

Alice was thinking about taking Kou to the executive meeting. — Then at that moment the sound of a bell resounded, the sound that meant the lord of the mansion had returned.

Alice held Fausta and left her room, while heading towards the front door, she went through the hall after the servants had finished the preparations. There she met Seldo at the stairway. Seldo, who lowered his head while backing off, had a weak smile on his face. Because he didn’t want to meet the count, he was trying to leave this place.

Alice, who had already received the report with what had happened with him, was thinking it was a good opportunity. She wanted to question him about his circumstances and the animosity he holds toward the Diretoss family.

“Seldo I have something I wish to talk about, do come to my room later.”
“Y-Yes….. young lady.”

Leaving the awkward feeling Seldo behind, Alice went towards the front door in order to greet her father.

“Welcome back, father.”
“Oh Alice, today you’re cute too. Have you been a good child?”

He lightly hugged her and poked her cheek. While Fausta, who had been sandwiched between them, began to struggle, count Bamist gently patted the small dog’s head.

“Geez……. is father planning to treat me like a child forever? ”
“Hahahahahaha, because I want Alice to stay as a child for now.”

For Alice, who was going to become sixteen this year, it will be soon that they will need to find her a fiancé. Lately, at his workplace, many of his colleagues are putting up sales-pitches about how wonderful their eldest son is, the count isn’t that concerned about work, but when it comes to his daughter it just won’t end.

“By the way, is Suria inside her room?”
“Yes, mother is locking herself up like always.”

I see I see, as the count said that he took the present he had gotten for his wife from the capital and headed towards her room. Seeing her father and remembering what kind of person he was, Alice let out a sigh, then she regained her posture when she remembered Halbad’s words.

“A ‘Good’ politician isn’t necessarily a ‘nice’ politician, huh……”

The first thing Alice did after returning to her own room was ask Kou what he thought of her father. What her father thought and felt about Alice as she greeted him. Was it just like how it seemed, or did he actually have other things on his mind. And what he felt towards her mother who had locked herself up in her own room. According to Kou who had picked up his thought—-

[He doesn’t want Alice to worry about anything and he is very worried about Seria, seems like he loves both of you dearly.]

It doesn’t seem as if he was thinking about things on the same level as Alice, but it seems he still thought over what could be done. It seems like the reason he came home today wasn’t because his work was settled but because he

wanted some time off with his family. However, because of a certain part of the servants, it is a question just how much of the current situation he understands.

“As expected, it seems like I will have to talk with father at least once. But before that—–”

“Young lady? The gardener’s assistant has come saying that he was called over by you.”
“I see, then please bring him over to the room next door.”

Alice, who is thinking that she needs to listen to Selod’s story, headed toward the drawing room, next to her own room.

Seldo, who was called to the young lady’s room, was fiddling with his hat while feeling restless and just sat sheepishly on the high class sofa. Then the servant opened the door of the drawing room and Alice, who was carrying the small dog Fausta, came in. Seldo immediately stood up. Seldo, who once again sat down after being told to, now sat face to face in front of Alice. In front of Alice some tea was prepared. Alice told the servant not to let anybody inside for now and the servant bowed once and left. Alice takes a sip of her tea and slowly asks.

“I will say it straight out. Why do you hate the Diretoss family?”
“!……Wha, I do not know what you are saying….”

“It is alright even if you do not hide it, I know about the fact that you have given Fausta treats. Treats that had things that dogs shouldn’t eat mixed within them.”
“……..”

Without looking Alice in the eye, Seldo, who was grasping his hat above his knees, eventually apologized about what he did to Fausta, also he told them about his life before coming here, the circumstances surrounding him and about his family.

Seldo was from the Caster household. At the time the Caste house had a reasonably large farmland, on the market they had raised a modest profit and they could even be counted among one of the mid-sized farm households group.

“I have a nine year old younger sister.”

My little sister Lima, who was said to look like her noble grandmother, was blessed with beautiful looks as a farmer’s girl, even among those of the same generation, she had a good reputation as a sales girl for her good friendly nature and her ability to judge crops on the market.
Maybe because of that, she caught the eye of a frequently passing son from a middle class noble, he ordered for the young Lima to be hired to work in his mansion and it seems that they lived a daily life of refusing him. Among them was also a high class noble member of the executive meeting, in particular, it was baron Fezad who had been managing the state of agricultural affairs.

“One day, he slandered our house by saying ‘the quality of it is bad, because it had been infested with insects’.”

Actually, we were able to keep producing high quality because we hired a great number of farmers, but because of the slandering the crops stopped selling. A notice from the executive’s came saying that we couldn’t sell our crops in this town or other towns, until we improved our quality, the Caster house had become bankrupt because of the great number of employees they had hired.

Later the farmland was taken away by the executive members by means of seizing it, then the workers respectively divided and were assigned to other farm households or nobles. About half of the farmers had been dismissed, but Seldo’s parents had to pay for the retirement money for those that were left behind and because it was a lot of money, we didn’t have much left on hand.

And now, the wife and husband of the Caster house were working on a farm under the jurisdiction of the Fezad house. As an agreement for the wife and husband of the Caster house to work freely with a pay that wouldn't inconvenience her, Baron Richi demanded Lima to work at his mansion. Lima, who thought of her parents, accepted. By the time Seldo, who was doing gardening work in the neighboring town, went back after he was informed about it, it was already too late and everything was already over.

"However……. I could not be convinced."

The evil way they forced them to being unable to trade, buying up the farmland through the use of authority, Seldo, who had become suspicious of the evil acts of the executives, made a complaint and demanded a trial and investigation about the fraud. However, naturally, he was dismissed without even being able to do anything.

For the time being, Seldo had nowhere to go, he was half done with his training as a gardener so he wasn't able to find any work, he was at a loss since he couldn't possibly become a burden for his parents, but his little sister Lima put up a good word for him and at baron Richi's introduction he was hired at the Diretoss house.

"….. I see, so that is how you lived. But how does that make you hold resentment towards father?"
"At the Fezad house Lima…… at that time that I had met my little sister I heard it, baron Richi talking with someone."

{— No I just do not how to put the gratitude I have into words, to think I would not only obtain that girl but also easily obtain the farmland—]
[—— Yeah, also give the count my thanks. It was that little girl's family? We can also leave him to the count. You agree with the rest of the process—]

After I heard that conversation, I was brought from baron Richi's mansion to the Diretoss House, after the conversation at count Bamist's mansion. Then I was introduced as a trainee gardener.

In this mansion, many of the workers were those with similar situations because of losing their wealth as if they were gathered here, every single one of them had been suspicious of the count. We then began to think that the reason we were hired was because we were being monitored or in order to keep us in check. Also, it could be to show the citizens of his good nature appeal because he had held out a helping hand to those that needed to be saved, or that is what we think. It seems like that they held such suspicions.

"In other words, in your case you think that the highest authority of the executive meeting the Diretoss house assisted the Fezad house to get your little sister, right?"
"……Yes."

Because of misunderstandings the distrust increases every time the number of new servants increases. Because there wasn't any clear evidence, distrust will turn into conviction, animosity gives birth to vengeance. At first they were modest with their small acts of vengeance, later on as they repeated it it began to escalate and finally it led to the current situation.

Alice lowers her sight onto Fausta. Within that gaze, anxiety was oozing from her mind. If her father really was the one that had allowed it all, what would she do, what should she do. If Kou's ability is used, then finding out the truth would be easy. Fausta's round eyes were staring at her. She felt courage attached to the very reassuring ally that was within him, Alice raised her head.

"I have understood your situation."
"U, Ummm…… Young lady."

"Please call Landon, you can go back."
"…….. Yes."

While wondering about lady Alice, who had her head down after hearing his story, Seldo silently left the room.

Evening —— At the Diretoss house's eating hall.

"It is alright madam. Because we shall always be by your side."
"Young lady Alice and count-sama are also here, so there is no need for worry."

The maids were soothing count Bamist's wife, who is Alice's mother, Suria, while moving her to the dining hall, though she didn't look all that well, she sat at the dining table for the first time in a long while. Around her there was a wall of maids. Only the servants who had been in service in this household, and the butler, were allowed to get close the her. She, who had only eaten her food inside her room after she locked herself inside her room, only came to the dining hall because her daughter Alice asked her to come no matter what.

"In such a state you won't be be able to even eat calmly. All of you please back off a little."
"However, young lady….."
"Alice, these girls are my—-"
"It is alright mother, all the people here and even the cooks were selected by me."

Alice's mother Suria was puzzled over the straight forward actions her daughter took, however, count Bamist was pleased that he was able to have dinner with his whole family. It has been a long time since the three of them have eaten together as a family. Also, being prompted by the count, the wall of maids moved away from the anxious madam.

The count's wife, Suria, had felt the animosity in the servant's eyes, from time to time she asked the count for advice, however, the count thought about their circumstances and soothed his wife by telling her that they just weren't used to the work yet. Of course, he didn't think that the servants were harassing her. They more or less didn't have many good memories about being helped, yet, that didn't mean that they would show animosity towards the one that had held out a hand toward them, thinking that he didn't take the complaint of his wife seriously.

The count, who was busy with his work of the executive meeting, still hadn't turned his mind towards the things that were happening inside the mansion, he still didn't understand the seriousness of the current situation. It seems that the butler Sebas has been telling the count with subtlety, but the count didn't make any moves, as if he had understood the meaning of what he did, the pushes they have been giving him had been weak. Within such a flow, it can be said that the actions that are being taken in the dark are escalating.

After the dinner had ended, an awkward atmosphere was about to come over this family, but Alice cut right through it.

"Actually, today, the reason why I persistently asked father and mother to come to dinner was because I have something important to say."

"Ho, What might that be?"

While relaxedly drinking the tea that his wife got in the town of Barass, the count strained his ears in order to hear what kind of interesting thing his daughter would say. However, at Alice's next words Suria became stiff and the count had a puzzled expression.

"This mansion's current situation, we need the talk about the resentment a part of the servants of the Diretoss household has."

A sudden uproar. The servants and maids within the dining hall and even Sebas was surprised by this. Though he had heard from the gardener Halbad that Alice had requested the help of Kou, who was existing within Fausta, regarding the animosity a part of the servants has, he didn't expect that they would make their move so quickly.

"Alice. I understand that you're worrying about your mother Suria, but it isn't good to lightly use words like 'the

grudge of the servants'."

'It is alright for children not to worry about such things, even if the count says such things she had already expected that response. Alice had already prepared what she was going to say beforehand and she began to discuss with the count about more content. When Alice told him about how Landon had broken her pet's nail, as expected, even the count's face became serious.

"I cannot live while acting not to notice their animosity any longer. If father will leave the current situation alone, then I will in order to protect myself and mother, vow to protect this household. Even if it means to use harsh measures to respond to their animosity."

"Sebas! What have you put into Alice's head!"
"No, I have not….."

Alice immediately puts in a follow up when the count directs his anger toward Sebas.

"I have not heard it from Sebas, father. Rather, Sebas has not said anything concerning the animosity that they are holding."

In other words, Alice herself was able to feel it and had suffered from the damage caused by the animosity herself, the count was lost for words. To think the situation was this bad, he then looked in Suria's eyes and she returned to look at him as if she was clinging to it, which shocked him. His wife's accusations, he had thought that it was just her minding it too much.

Silence spread through the dining hall. At that time, Alice's gaze fell on a single piece of paper that had appeared from Fausta who had been on Alice's knees.

"Count – doesn't know behind the scenes – exactly like his public image."

Kou had picked up the count's thought process, Alice then became relieved that her father was innocent. It seems he is regretting that it came to this because he didn't properly listen to the butler and his wife. Even the circumstances around the hired servants, he was just was just recognizing them as people in trouble because they had lost their wealth and nothing more.

"However, we can't just throw them out….."

Alice tells the count, suffering from concern, that there is no need to throw them out. Alice had grasped leadership, so then it was to examine the truth, the clear truth and reason what they should do. The problem is that they are having a grudge toward the Diretoss house, even though it was a grudge orchestrated by someone else who is pulling the strings.

"That is, Sebas you also said something similar didn't you?"
"Yes. However, I did not have any clear evidence……."

"If it's about that, then I have heard an interesting story from a servant."

Then, Alice began to tell Seldo's story. While not saying any names, she told his story up until he got here, like him, there are other servants who just like him, had their wealth unfairly taken by the executive members, they are the people that were eventually hired in this mansion, but they started to hold suspicions towards the Diretoss house as the highest authority of the executive meeting. As more people with the same circumstances were coming in their suspicions eventually changed to conviction, so their animosity and hatred became manifested in the form of vengeance.

"—— I think that perhaps this is the reason for the current situation."

“Are you saying…… that you found out about this all on your own?”

The count asked stunned at the truth that had been thrown in his face by his own daughter, whom he thought was just a child. Alice did not do this alone. While Sebas was surprised on the inside, he was certain that Kou had helped her out.

“There is someone trying to smear father’s name in sin. Furthermore, it’s one of the executives of the executive meeting——”
“Wait, Alice.”

Alice, who was about to point out the illegal deeds of the executive meeting, was stopped by the count who thought that the content of it couldn’t be spoken of in a place like this. Madam Suria, who wasn’t able to follow the conversation between her daughter and husband, was restlessly moving her eyes back and forth between them. The servants and maids who saw young lady Alice’s in amazement, could only stand there like statues.

“Well then, I shall be coming over to father room later on.”
“……. Humu.”

Alice, who stood up from her seat, makes an elegant bow and leaves the dining hall while hugging Fausta. After that, only a heavy atmosphere was left behind where nobody could say anything. The count, who had a difficult expression on his face, told Suria, who had send an anxious stare his way, that he was alright and told her that she should rest for today. She sent a look filled with a little expectation to her husband and then left the dining room herself while being surrounded by her trusted maids.

“Sebas.”
“Yes.”

“Even if my eyes were to be knotholes, just what has happened to my daughter?”

Towards the count’s question, of just who had let her become like this, Sebas thought about how he should describe the existence called ‘Kou’ and then answered.”

“It seems that young lady Alice has found a very reassuring friend and ally.”

Spirit Migration – Volume 2 – CH12 – The Sunshine after the Storm (Part 1 / 2)

By Tensaiz

August 24, 2015

As promised, here it is.
Part 2 will follow somewhere soon.

I hope you guys find it less boring to read than it was to TL / proofread :V
Enjoy~
-Tensaiz

_____-

Chapter 12: The sunshine after the storm (Part 1/2)

That night, the butler Sebas and the gardener Halbado were called to count Bamist´s study and they talked about what happened at dinner while waiting for lady Alice. Since it was going to be a complex talk they had sent everyone away. Before long, the sound of the door being knocked modestly resounded.

“Father, I have come.”
“Hm, Enter.”

Entering the count’s study while hugging Fausta in front of her chest was Alice, following behind her were the apprentice gardener Seldo Caster and the caretaker Landon Eranto. The two of them, who were pretty nervous, made themselves small and sent a greeting towards the count.

“Well you don’t have to be that nervous. First of all, let us hear your situation.”

Being prompted by the count, Seldo and Landon began to tell the stories concerning their circumstances, they also opened up over the suspicions they held toward the Diretoss house.

While the Eranto house was selling their fruits at the market, they had ended up with a surplus which they couldn’t sell and so they became poor. One day, the shipment report of the Executives didn’t add up with the number of what was produced. This was found out by the members, which in turn, caused their business to be temporarily frozen.

Having given food to those without any money, they saw it as: ‘Though it may be out of goodwill, we shall not acknowledge it either.’ Saying that, they deemed it an illegal act, those kind of charity acts could potentially damage fair businesses. Thinking like that, they came to the conclusion that it may also damage other businesses. The executive member decided to confiscate the land.

“Umu…… If this is the truth, then these are certainly outrageous acts…..”

For the past few years, the count has received commissions for buying and selling land, he knew of the split management of the executive members, but he still didn’t know the small details behind it, so he did not have a grasp on what kind of commissions for land they were.

The situation before they lost themselves, and the cause of it all. Just where had their fortune gone to. There are many departments within the executives that handle with farmland and livestock, furthermore, they have a large

number of officers that are distributed through those places, so he couldn't know who had lost what and who had gained something.

"It's called arrogance when a guy drinks sweet juice, while the wealth is equally distributed, isn't it alright to investigate this."
"Probably, but in order to reach the mastermind behind this… he probably has many scapegoats in order to throw us off his tail."

When Sebas agreed with Halbado, he told them of the possibility of the hidden plot, the count pointed out the hole within that ploy.

"After he came here a crack appeared, is what it means."

The matter that Alice heard from Seldo about his little sister Lima, will become the key to find out the identity of the mastermind. The count and the others felt that earl Richi from the Fezad house can get them some kind of clue.

Alice, who felt a little left out from seeing her father with a rare look on his face different from the one he wears when he's working, cut through the flow of the conversation.

"Father, please bring me to the executive committee."

The count, whose eyes became round from Alice's request, gave up while thinking; 'just what is she going to say now'. She took action in order the change how things were inside the mansion, she yielded many achievements, so his true feelings were that of surprise and praise, but beyond this, it won't be a problem only concerning a single mansion or family, it's the world of politics where bargaining shall be needed.
Naturally, it isn't a stage where a child can appear on, so he was going to refuse her. However, Sebas and Halbado agreed to Alice's request.

"I think it's good to show the young lady your workplace, from time to time."
"I think it isn't a bad idea for her to go along for social studies' sake. Also, there are some among them that have a strong interest in the count's daughter."

"U…..mu."

In fact, nowadays more and more proposals from prominent families have been coming in. If you go there with her, the heirs of those families may act rash while talking about things, making them speak about certain things, or so Sebas says.
Also, we can immediately find a good husband for the young lady, so it'll be two birds with one stone, the count made a difficult face after what Halbado said, however, it seemed that they succeeded in persuading him.

"I understand. Tomorrow, I shall take you along."

Though reluctantly, the count had agreed to take Alice with him to the executive committee.

——The next day.

After arriving at the center of the executive committee building, the surrounding people looked at count Bamist who had brought along his daughter and said 'So he's finally looking for his daughter's husband!?" Thus, many 'young noblemen' or 'noble gentlemen' gathered, they had come in order to greet the count and his daughter Alice in order to appeal to them with their acts.
Within the commotion, wearing a light pink dress and ribbons that were swaying just above her ears, hugging the round small dog Fausta, looking adorable like that and being bathed in attention, was Lady Alice. She was talking with the gentlemen while receiving reports on their thoughts from Kou, who was reading their minds.

“Wants friendship and achievements.”
“Wants friendship, he isn’t interested in kids like Alice.”
“Doesn’t want to even bother because it’s troublesome.”
“Friendship, from there on marry with Alice and inherit the household.”

From those who are perfectly normal to those who are a little dangerous, or those that greet her in earnest and those that put up an front, there is a variety of responses.
He didn’t let people notice him, because on Fausta’s back, who was being held, there was a small memo paper. (TL note: Kou seems to write down his impressions on that memo -Tensaiz)
From beginning to end, moderate and quiet when spoken to, or when a new person appears before her, she averted her gaze in an embarrassed manner. She seemed like a quickly embarrassed young girl, and Alice herself was aware of it.
Actually, the count himself wasn’t informed of the fact that Kou was taking action, so he was secretly thinking ‘Is he trying to be a cat?’ or something like that.

“It is a pleasure to meet you Alice-dono. I am the one called Richi of the Fezad house, I do hope we get along.”
“Ah, yes…… the pleasure is mine.”

being momentarily distracted because of an unexpected encounter with the opponent, she hid her face in order to check the memo paper in a hurry. Because lady Alice had shown a reaction clearly different from the others he seemed to have some kind of misunderstanding, Earl Richi showed the smile of a winner to the surrounding people.

“Wants friendship, achievements, and is interested in Alice.”

Alice thought that earl Richi only wanted a friendly relation with her father, however, Alice tried to change her train of thought and remembered what Sebas said about how the Earl might be one of the many ‘Scapegoats’ in order to reach the true mastermind.

“Umm…… Father, I wish to speak with earl Richi for a while however.”
“Fumo, I see. Then take a rest at the salon. Earl Richi, could I trouble you to take care of my daughter for a while?”
“O, Of course, please leave it to me! Well then, Alice-dono this way, I shall guide you to the salon.”

Alice glanced at the count and sent a wink, in order to find the ‘suspicious person Earl Richi spoke with’ that appeared in Seldo’s story, so she headed to the salon under Earl Richi’s guidance, who seemed to be excited.

“I see, Richi-sama, you started your management of agricultural lands on your own, haven’t you .”
“Yes, they are both of fine quality and great quantity, they even get shipped to the capital, hahahaha.”

Earl Richi, who holds the position of manager of agricultural land within the executive committee, has a deep relation with the suppliers from the capital. When he was asked about it, he was trying to appeal to the future possibilities of the Fezad house in a boasting manner.
However, because the outer thoughts of the earl are filled with how much he’s interested with Alice, they cannot get the information they need from him.

[Yeah, I guess it’s impossible if a more direct keyword isn’t used.]

Kou thought about it for a little, and told Alice to change the subject. Seeing the memo paper that appeared from Fausta’s back, Alice, who made a small nod while saying ‘I see’, immediately changed to another subject.

“Now that I think about it, I heard that a relative of one of our gardeners works in Richi-sama’s mansion.”
“Ah, you are talking about Arima aren’t you. Well truth to be told, her parents had allowed that farm to breakdown around the time the executive committee confiscated their land I had hired her.”

After she had said that her parents had hired someone from the farmland, the Earl began to appeal to how deep his benevolence is. It is a well known fact that count Bamist is a philanthropist, he was holding hope about how he could appeal to his dear daughter and in order to leave a good impression, is what he thought.

——This chance, I can't let it go to waste! However, to think that Rima's brother that was sent to the count was this useful, I will need to send some money to viscount Kutol again—
[…….! I picked something up, is this it?]

Kou, who had dug up the name 'viscount Kutol' from the earl's mind, told it to Alice.

"My, what a benevolent person you are Richi-sama."
"You jest, it is only the natural thing to do for those that stand at the top, hahaha."

Alice, who randomly praised the earl, stood up, it is time for me to go home, she said that and went to count Bamist's personal room and said farewell. She was in a happy mood because it turned out that the earl was a hit and they found something.

"Father."
"Oh, So it's you Alice. How was Earl Richi? I do think that he is an easy to talk to person, however, there are many things you won't know if you don't talk with others too, you know?"

The count spoke with a smile on his face but his eyes were doing anything except that. Even if this is his personal room, the eyes and ears of the servants are still around, Alice, who had understood that this wasn't the place where they could talk about it, went along with the count's words saying: 'I shall think more about it from now on,' as an answer, she told him that she wanted to go home for today.
Alice came close to the Count in order to greet him and passed him a memo paper. On the memo was viscount Kutol's name written on it.

"Now, it is to wait so father's report."
"Woof woof." [Good work.]

Within the carriage that was returning to the mansion, Alice, who had noticed that she was more nervous than she had expected, had let the strength leave from her stiff shoulders. The weight of Fausta that was sitting on her knees felt nice.

"Woof woof." [You're tired aren't you, here take this.]
"? What?"

Fausta held his front paw towards her, which she grabbed, then, on her hand a flask appeared. It was a fatigue healing potion used by adventurers. Normally, it wasn't something the daughter of a noble would drink, but Kou didn't even have the slightest knowledge of such an concept, Alice was a young lady with a strong sense of curiosity.

"…… It isn't something that's particularly bad to my body, so it's alright to drink it right?"
"Woo woof." [Get better]

'Gluck, gluck'

"…… Really, disgusting."
"Woof?" [Is that so?]

Though her body had recovered, lady Alice's face lost color.

Spirit Migration – Volume 2 – CH12 – The Sunshine after the Storm (Part 2 / 2)

By Tensaiz September 12, 2015

I'm sorry… my estimates always seem to suck somehow. I thought that I would be able to find the time to upload this way earlier, but university has kept me more occupied than I anticipated.

Also, the latter half of this post is unedited unfortunately. I don't know when I'll have the time to fully edit it, so instead of waiting, I just decided to upload what was ready. But no worries, you guys should be able to read it just fine.

Enjoy~
-Tensaiz
———————————————-

After Alice returned to the mansion, she had told both Sebas and Halbad about the information she had obtained today at the executive meeting. She had told them about the person called Viscount Kutol.

"You mean viscount Kutol Glas Kolden, do you not? If I do not remember wrongly, he is someone that moved here from the capital."

"Now that I think about it, isn't that the name that pops up a lot when you hear about donations to military facilities."

Alice tilted her head at Halbad's words. She was wondering just why a gardener like him would know about donations to military facilities, or rather, the regular army of the Capital. Halbad, who read the question from Alice's expression, said, "'Cause I'mma former soldier,' with a smile.

TL note: He's speaking with an accent. -Honor

The plains surrounding the town of Kurakaru are the more beautiful ones among the cities in the Grandal region, a city that thrives on agriculture and livestock as its main income. In times of emergency, the first thing that will be aimed for, is the land and livestock. The soldiers from the Capital were stationed here without informing the lord of the town about it beforehand, the city's guards had also been increased. In order to protect the important livestock, they fight with a lot of mutated animals and monsters. That's why this town is known for being a safe and peaceful town in the Grandal region. Halbad revealed that he was a former executive of the regular army that is stationed there, and after he retired, he got hired by count Bamist to work as his close aid.

"S, so it was like that?"

"Tis a secret so dun' tell anyone about it, ok?"

'I had already thought that he didn't seem like just a gardener, however, to think he would be a former executive of the regular army,' Alice thought, not being able to hide her surprise.

It has become evening. When the count had returned, Sebas, Halbad, and Alice gathered at the count's study in order to talk about today's results. In the middle of work, the count had tried to find leads in anything viscount Kutol was involved in, however, he was not able to find any suspicious points.

“Well, he wouldn’t leave any evidence like official documents around.”

“However, if you were to try find out the viscount’s movements then it will be necessary to send in a skilled spy…..”

Of course, since he will also be on guard for our movements, it will be hard to gather it secretly.”

If viscount Kutol were to be the mastermind, it would be important to have a trusted spy at hand. Someone who would keep him under observation and find out the needed evidence.

It is needed to find someone skilled, it will be even harder since that person will need to be fast so his or her movements won’t be noticed. If the range of movements were to be outside the executive committee, it would be possible to prepare the preparations in another town, however, Viscount Kutol is a noble who is also part of the executive committee.

Furthermore, he is in the top of the general affairs department. The only useable option available would be to steadily investigate him, thinking that, the count and the others let out a heavy sigh. At that moment, Alice, who had been left out of the discussion, opened her mouth.

“Umm, Father…… I have a good idea however.”

“Hmm? Viscount Kutol is married, so it won’t go the same way as baron Richi you know?”

Furthermore, this isn’t something that only involves the executive committee alone. They will also need to investigate other nobles who are abusing their rights. You won’t even have to think twice whether danger will follow if they were to investigate it all. The Count doesn’t want to expose his daughter to such dangers.

“No, it isn’t like that—-”

In the afternoon, Alice consulted with Kou and they had made the promise that it was alright to use Kou’s ability in order to resolve this case without any problems. In order for that to happen, it is needed to talk about a part of it with the count and the others.

She was worried that if she told them too much, that they might try to obtain Kou because of how useful his ability is. While telling some half-truths she explained what Kou could do to the count and the others. She used Fausta’s body in order to do that.

“Th, this is….”

When his daughter’s pet, the small dog Fausta, was put on the table, Fausta began to erase the cups on the table and pulled out a memo paper with a greeting written on it. One day, an existence suddenly appeared from within Fausta. Able to understand human speech and possessing the ability to pull out objects from his own place to another.

“If it’s this child, he will be able to work inside the executive committee without alerting anyone.”

Alice was telling them that because of Kou’s abilities, possessing another animal or insect, he would be able to tail anyone and go into any room in order to gather evidence.

The count was convinced that his daughter was trying her best in order to make the situation around the mansion better, so she had gathered all this information in order to capture the mastermind behind the ‘allusion’. When he turned his sight to Sebas and Halbad, it seemed like neither of them had been informed of this either, and had been staring at them with the same expression as him. For now, the Count, who is her father, was a little relieved at the fact that he wasn’t the only one who wasn’t informed about this.

In order to make it easier to move within the executive committee, Halbad had gathered small insects and different

kinds of lizards from the garden while he had also prepared messenger birds. With that, count Bamist headed to his workplace. Alice was taking a walk with Fausta, who had returned to normal. They started with Landon and Seldo, who had been informed of the Count's innocence, then they gathered all the workers inside the mansion in front of the Count his wife, Suria, and young lady Alice. Then they apologized to them. Furthermore, in order for them not to leak information about the Diretoss families' movements, a lockdown decree was issued to the whole Diretoss household.

"However, it is an exciting thing ain't it. I may not be good in all of them political affairs an' all, but yeah, let's just say these kinda fights make me excited."

"Now that I think about it, it seems like you have gathered a lot of fun looking insects haven't you."

Alice, who was letting Fausta play in the garden, shrugged her shoulders after hearing Halbad's explanation while he was taking care of the flower bed. 'This insect doesn't make a sound so it's handy for stealth' or 'if it's about movement speed, then this small spider is the best' seeing him like that, Alice thought he was like a small child. It was a blunder to let Halbad laugh at her after she screamed from seeing a small lizard jumping of his hand.

"I wonder if Kou will be able to do it well."

While holding the happy Fausta, who had come to her after rolling and running around, Alice looked towards the sky where the executive committee was.

Count Bamist was walking towards his room in the hall after the meeting of the executives of the executive committee meeting, within the salon where multiply executive nobles were relaxing he had found Viscount Kutol and walked towards him. Behind the collar of his clothes was a small insect hidden that was being possessed by Kou.

"Well, if it isn't count Bamist. Might you also be taking a break?'

"Well, I was lead by a nice smell. It seems like Viscount Kutol has good taste in tea."

"Well now, I am honored. Actually, it is something my wife had purchased."

"Hm, it seems like your wife has bought some good tea leaves."

While exchanging pleasantries with each other, the Count, who got close to viscount Kutol, saw the insect Kou jump from his collar to that of the viscount's and hid himself inside his clothes. There might be a clue among the conversations of the executive nobles.

"What do you think? Do you wish to try a sip."

"I want to do just that, however, I still have a mountain of work left. Even though it's me, it doesn't seem like work will end."

Saying that, the Count left this place.

"Since the count is a serious person, it's alright if I just stuff the roots."

"Exactly. However, there are also some soft spots."

"It seems like he brought his daughter along just the other day, I have heard that she had taken a liking to baron Richi."

"…..Well now, isn't that just interesting."

While continuing to exchange pleasantries with others, Viscount Kutol was secretly thinking about the Count's

movements. Was there a reason why he spoke to him, or was it just a mere whim. Yesterday it seemed like the Fezad family -one of the families that usually donates money -had made an extraordinary donation. It seems that the girl that was thrown in as an extra for the farmland he obtained, though it seems like the girl was the main prize, and the farmland was the extra to baron Richi, however, it seems that that girl's brother was tossed into the Diretoss family with the job to observe the daughter of the house.

[If I just look at it from one perspective, he seemed as a half-baked gardener that had another purpose for being there, is something that wouldn't be unthinkable of however…..]

He cannot be certain whether or not baron Richi will say his name to anyone. Right now it is an important time, since he had now used his connections to issue a demand to a high ranking official in the Capital; that he would be nominated as the next head of the town of Kurakaru. He doesn't want to make a wrong move and mess up big time. Once he becomes the head he, will have the highest seat within the executive committee, he can just do away with most problems using his power then.

Just to be sure, I guess I'll order the documents that would be bad if come to light. Viscount Kutol, who cut off his exchanges with the other executive nobles before his veil got broken, headed towards his own room. Cut off the ill feeling at its bud, this is the Viscount who didn't have any backup plans if the plan would fail—-

[Documents that should never come to light hmm, I guess I will be able to gather evidence faster than I thought?]

—- For the small insect that was hiding in his clothes, who picked up his thoughts, everything was out in the open.

Viscount Kutol once had set up his family in the Capital and was of the upper aristocracy, rather than rising through the ranks among the many nobles gentlemen as a bureaucrat of the palace, he wanted wanted to become the ruler of some random land with a big town. He came to the town of Kurakaru with the mindset that he would be able to rake in the money while doing nothing. One of the reasons was also that the current ruler of the town is count Bamist, a 'good man'. He determined it by choosing easy looking prey.

If he were to be pushed off the seat as the next ruler, he would give orders out to the top of the executive committee and bribe the mid class nobles and the top of the regular army in the form of donations. Of course, he has a large amount of black money within the Capital. He could also just use confiscated land and others things in order to bribe them, just like he did with baron Richi, he can just donate like that until a certain degree, where it doesn't become too much of an burden.

Rounding up the documents that had the earnings and spending of the funds inside his own room, once he leaves the executive committee building, he went to his own mansion and left his own room after he had made sure that the 'barrier vault' tightly closed those documents. He finally left his room after he hid the key and safe key in his drawer.

"Hmm? milord, are you going out again today?"

"Yes, I still have some unfinished work left."

After having said that to the head maid the viscount had once again left the mansion and went to the executive committee building.

[Have a safe trip.]

Just now the appearance of a small insect at the window flopping around while seeing the Viscount could be seen. The grain-like insect Kou was possessing, was going towards the barrier vault where the Viscount had locked up his documents. This vault is a vault that makes use of the barrier magic, that magicians can use as a base, and is a magic type safe, though it may be ridiculously expensive, its ability is worth all of it. It won't even budge from just any attack, unlocking it without the key is virtually impossible.

Whether you throw it off the top of an castle, bath it in the flames of fire magic or trample it with an golem, as long as the right amount of force isn´t used the barrier won´t break. Once upon a time, it had became famous since the king at the time tried to see whether what the Eioan merchant said was really true and tested it out, because of that it became famous and also it had become the merchant´s catchphrase when he was selling it.

[I wonder if I have to put a stone in a certain hole upon this desk?]

I tried to put in the spiritualists amulet to test it out, but there wasn't any response. The real key , which is a pendant, is in the drawer of the desk on the other side of the room. Kou went to take the key within the drawer, then he passed through the barrier of the safe without any problem

[Hmmm I passed through?]

When he tried to take a look by putting his head inside, he saw a lot of documents as if they were thick books bunched up. It seems like the spirit form itself doesn't get affected by the barrier at all Once again, while thinking that he was getting tired of what he had become, Kou summoned the documents that were within the barrier safe to his hand.

Since Kou didn't have the knowledge to know which documents are important and which aren't, so bacuase of that 'for know I'll just take it all' is what he ended up doing. Because there wasn't any trace of someone trying to open the barrier safe, since viscount Kutol was busy doing underhanded dealings and such he wouldn't notice that the contents of the safe were gone until a much later date.

After leaving viscount Kutol's mansion Kou was fluttering through the air as a bird and moved close to a man who was standing close by, then he possessed the bird that was sitting on the shoulder of the man who seems to be Halbad's subordinate. That man was just doing as he was ordered to, after making sure that the messenger bird that was on his shoulder flew away, he quietly left from where he was.

[Oh, as expected birds are amazing. But this is, flying for myself is harder than expected.]

Since it was a properly trained messenger bird, it could just take him to where he wanted to go if he told him. Kou didn't have any experience in flying except for that time when he possessed a bat in the dungeon in the town of Barss, he could only be entranced by seeing a real bird gliding elegantly through the sky. Since the insects he possessed that could fly felt more like floating rather than flying, so it was exhilarating to move at a speed at which ground animals couldn't compare to. Eventually he was able to see the Diretoss house which was his destination. He could see the form of Fausta that was running around the garden within the mansion grounds.

[Birdy, please take me over to that doggy."

"Tweet!"

With a flutter of his wings he descended in one fell swoop. When Fausta saw that a bird was descending at him from the sky, Kou possessed Fausta. He could feel happy emotions from Fausta. It seems like he was warmly welcoming Kou. When the messenger bird had finished its job of delivering Kou, he once again soared into the sky and flew away.

"Fausta?"

Fausta who had been happily running around the garden until just now, looked into the sky as if he was quietly sending of the bird that had come flying over just now which Alice found strange. However soon after that she had thought that Kou had returned.

"Kou? You returned?"

“Woof wooooof” [Yeah, I’m back.”

Toward Fausta Kou who looked back at her with human like gestures and answered her, Alice welcomed him with a smile.

On this day, count Bamist who had returned earlier than normal met up with Sebas and Halbad inside his personal room and were busy sorting out the documents. At the beginning Alice was also in the room, however after Kou began to put the documents on the table, after changing his face thrice the count prompted her to return to her own room, noticing that there was something up with the way her father, Sebas and Halbad were acting, Alice quietly returned to her own room.

“However, how to say….”

“He excels exceptionally as an spy, there it no doubt about it, about Kou-dono that is.”

“Before you start saying things like that, something like this….. its impossible.”

What Kou brought back was without a doubt an extremely dangerous mountain of treasure, it was also a mountain of dangerous drugs. What’re we gonna do bout this, saying that he smashed the documents on the table. Since not only many of the executive committee members of the town of Kurakaru which are mid-class and high-class nobles, Those that work in the palace within the capital former higher ups from the regular army also the current higher ups within the regular army, it had the secret dealings with black money of all of these people within these documents.

“If this was used wrongly, it’d be the downfall of this country…..”

“Before that would even happen our Diretoss family might be crushed.”

“We can act as if we hadn’t seen most of the documents. It is also dangerous to keep it at hand. I think it is for the best to let Kou-dono to be entrusted with them.”

The documents needed to prosecute viscount Kutol and the documents that can help out the the Diretoss family with their problems will be kept, the other dangerous documents shall be disposed of. Even though they said that it would be regrettable to lose those documents, so they called Kou to the room and told him ´do be careful with how you handle it´ and thus entrusted an ridiculous amount of black money to him. After Kou had put a ´handle with care´ paper on the documents he stored them in a corner of his dimensional storage.

A few days have passed since a rapport and the documents concerning the evil deeds of viscount Kutol had been send to the government of the capital, the viscount who had received an invitation from the capital thought that he would finally receive his letter of recommendation in becoming the next ruler of the town of Kurakaru and left for the journey in a joyful mood. By the way, concerning what would happen with the documents concerning the evil deeds and such of viscount Kutol, the government of the capital had sent them a letter saying ´we shall take care of its disposal´ so we don´t have to worry about that.

Count Bamist who wanted to take care of everything in one go, waited until viscount Kutol had left the town and performed a check on all the activities of the executive committee members. From the beginning they were already aware of when, where, what and who they were meeting at what time of day. The rounding up investigation truly went without any hitches, a lot of evil deeds had come to light and a lot of nobles were punished for them.

However, the only punishments they were given was that they parts of the lands they owned and that they had to pay a fine, also the number of nobles that committed evil deeds wasn’t that large, so the impression the PLEBS had wasn’t that bad. In reality, the plebs who weren’t actually influenced by this, it felt like it was just someone else’s problem. .

Since the evil deeds had come to light, some of the servants that served the Diretoss family retired because they

had received their land back. The servants that had received their land back and left the Diretoss family after thanking and apologizing to them from the bottom of their hearts, they had promised to give the Diretoss family a certain percentage of their earnings after they were back on track with their business.

“Young lady, this is my little sister Lima.”

“I am called Lima. It seems that my brother has been a bother while being in your care.”

The day after Seldo had left the mansion, he had brought over his little sister that was trapped in the Fezad’s mansion. If you had to say it than baron Richi would be a small fry, it seems like he was just all talk since he hadn’t done anything in order to obatain the Caster family’s farmland and daughter. Returning the farmland to the Caster family and paying them a fine. He also had to release their daughter and he parted with her in tears. Although it seemed as if he truly had feelings for Lima, after Alice had seen the reaction he showed when he had misunderstood that she liked him, it could be said that he was an individual of whom much couldn’t be expected.

“Seldo, will you stop being an gardener?”

“Yes, since I need to help take care of thee farmland that has been returned, so I think I need to help my parents and little sister with it.”

“I see, good luck.”

Because of various reasons a lot of servants had gone back to their home after their assests or money had been returned, those who had stayed in service of the Diretoss family completely changed their attitude. They were working in order to thank and repay them so the air within the mansion had become warm. Even the count’s wife Sumia who had stayed locked up within her room began to recover little by little because of the new air around the mansion, from time to time she even attends tea parties within the garden.

“It’s really comfortable isn’t it.”

“WOO Woff.” [Good for you.]

Alice who was holding Fausta to her chest was full of joy within her heart.

Spirit Migration – Volume 2 – Chapter 13 – A New Tomorrow

By Tensaiz

December 7, 2015

Well, we had to even it out after that TNS release.
Another chapter that has come relatively fast after our previous release~
But damn, these chapters feel so long x_x

Anyways, hope you guys can endure until the winter break~~
Enjoy!

-Tensaiz
& Honor

———————————-

TL note: “ ” = normal speech — [ ] = Inner monologues / Kou’s thoughts/speech — { } = Text written on paper
-Tensaiz

Chapter 13: A new tomorrow

The simultaneous apprehension of the criminals in this case was a lot smoother than expected, and even though there was a big replacement of those in the executive committee, the rumors that had spread among the nobles and plebeians about this case had already subsided.

Alice, who was chatting with her friends at the nobles’ school’s salon, heard the bell that indicated that school was over. She prepared herself to go home.

“Oh my, Alice, are you returning home so soon again today?”

“Lately you haven’t even invited us over for a tea party… could something have happened at home?”

“No, the house is very peaceful. I have several things to do, I apologize.”

Quickly giving her goodbyes, Alice left the school grounds. Her friends think that even though she has gotten happier lately, her relationship with her friends has been getting worse. They cared about Alice, deeply.

“Just what could it be, does this mean that she won’t even spend her time with mid-grade nobles like us?”

“Eh? That couldn’t be, she isn’t the kind of person to differentiate between ranks.”

“That’s right, Alice normally even talks with me, who rose from a commoner’s standing, you know?”

“However… lately she hasn’t even called us over to her house, has she?”

Even though she used to invite them over to a tea party at her mansion’s house every week, lately, she had only invited them after she had returned from the town of Baras. After that, not even once did she invite them again.

Now that I think about it —— one of them said when she remembered what she had overheard while her parents were talking:

“I heard this from my father a little while ago; Count Bamist has brought his daughter to the Executive committee.”

“Alice in the executive committee?”

“Wasn’t it around that time? That she immediately went home after the bell rang.”

”Yeah, something could have happened like we thought.”

Those who were confused over the matter were Alice’s good friends.

Meanwhile Alice, who had arrived at the mansion, first went to the rearing room and picked up Fausta. Like that she brings him to her own room. Landon was still working in the mansion; until his family has revived the farming business, like how it was before, he is allowed to work there as the money earner.

Of course he had properly apologized about the way he had treated Fausta and he even swore that he wouldn’t go back on his previous ways. As a care taker, they have perfect faith in him, as he perfectly takes care of Fausta. Lately Fausta had stopped trying to threaten him.

Having returned to her room, Alice swiftly changed her clothes and while the maids were leaving the room, she hugged Fausta who was sitting on the bed.

“Kou, has anything unusual happened today?”

“Wooooooooooofofofofofofofoofofoffoof” [Same as always.]

“Yeah~, I won’t get it with just ‘woof woof’. Well then, let us converse through writing words again today. ”

“Woof.”

Lately, Alice has been spending her day like this, talking with Kou through Fausta. Talking through writing, reading in her room, and taking daily walks in the garden, is now their daily routine in their everyday lives.

“Let us go, Kou.”

Wherever they might go—-

“What do you think Kou?”

Whatever they might do—-

“Hey, Kou what—-”

Alice always takes Kou along. Alice kind of relied on Kou, through Kou she was able to touch upon a lot of topics, but like everything, there is always a bad side. Because of this, her contact with her good friends has lessened and she doesn’t really talk with other people anymore.

Being able to know what other people are thinking, or what they hide within their hearts, something like that isn’t always a good thing. Once you know what’s inside of someone’s heart, you’ll always end up concerned with the kind of emotions the other party looks at you. Once the seed of anxiety has been planted, making contact with others becomes scary.

[Yeah, as expected, this is no good.]

Though I don’t mind being together forever from now on and become her pillar of support, Kou thinks that it might be

bad for Alice if this goes on. He thought that he should distance himself from her little by little, so her dependence on him will lessen.

“Well then Kou, let us relax again today.”

Time to go to bed—- Like always, Alice doesn’t bring Fausta to the rearing room and lets him sleep on the same bed. With a ‘pomf~’ Kou jumped onto the bed and looked at Alice in her negligee. Fausta was looking at her, so Alice asked; ‘what’s wrong?’ while tilting her head.

Out of nowhere, the memo-pad appears. It was a firm memo-pad which Kou began to write on.

{Let’s part ways.}

“… Eh?”

Alice’s eyes became dots. To that reaction, Kou quickly began to write more on the memo-pad.

{I think it’s time for me to leave this mansion.}

“Wha? W-Why?”

{If it goes on like this, then you’ll become a no good woman}

In order to prompt Alice to cherish her contact with her good friends, even though she has anxiety in her heart about it, I need to make her understand that conversing with someone while you can’t read each other’s mind and emotions is also important.

To be precise, Kou doesn’t have a physical body to represent himself; therefore, he shall not be able to personally have any standing in this world. Having spent the time after he awakened at the altar until today, he can say that because he has always had to borrow another’s body to exist. To be able to exist in a world full of people and live as a person with other people, that is a very blissful thing.

Inside the mansion she has reassuring people like the butler Sebas and the gardener Halbad. If she were to have any problems, then they would certainly be there to assist her.

{It’s because of me Alice, because I am the one hindering your growth.}

“Kou….”

One way or another, Alice was conscious of the kind of situation she was currently in, so that is why she couldn’t strongly refute him.

“When you leave the mansion…… Will we never meet again?”

{There’s no way it’d be like that, I think that we’ll meet again one day.}

I might need to borrow Fausta’s body again for that, or we might meet while I have another body. ‘Though I don’t know when that will be’, Kou promised her that if he were to ever be around the town of Kurakaru again, that he’d drop by. Kou talked about this overnight, and eventually Alice reluctantly accepted it.

Early morning the next day. Kou possessed the messenger bird that was used in the previous investigation case. He flew into the horizon from Alice’s window a little before dawn. Alice quietly saw him off with the sleepy Fausta in her arms.

Inside the Diretoss house, where the residents were still sleeping, at the only window that allows the light of dawn to reach it, Kou looked at Alice who was waving her hand while seeing him off. When he was done flying around the mansion saying his farewells, he left the town of Kurakaru and flew toward the eastern sky.

“Landon, are you awake yet?”

“Young lady…? You have woken up rather early today, have you not?”

Young lady Alice, who usually entrusts Fausta to him around breakfast, came at dawn today, so Landon was looking at her with a surprised expression. Furthermore, she was carrying Fausta while he was still sleeping, which was rare.

“From today onward I think that taking care of Fausta is going to be harder, so thank you in advance.”

“Ah, yes, I understand.”

After Alice left Fausta on the pet-bed she left the rearing room. From behind, her appearance seemed a little fragile. Thinking something may have happened, Landon, who was worried about it, went to the head-butler’s room for now.

Alice visited the gardens while still wearing her pajamas and Halbad, who was working from before dawn on the flower bed, talked to her.

“Oh, you’re alone today? There really are some strange sights to see.”

“Kou has… gone away.”

‘He said farewell’ is what she sadly muttered, while she faced the sky that was being lit by the light of dawn.

“Hmm, maybe he got annoyed with the way you were sticking next to him the whole time —— Wah! Dangerous, Imma sayin’ that’s dangerous! Stop! Please stop swinging the hoe.”

“Young lady, leave the right hand and try to take the left hand since it’s easier.”

“Sebas! You bastard!”

Sebas, who had suddenly appeared in the gardens, didn’t mind the hoe young lady Alice was swinging, but instead began to give her advice. Landon could be seen at the gardens entrance.

While watching the young lady swinging a hoe at the fleeing gardener Halbad, the butler Sebas thought that the young lady’s current state had something to do with Kou.

[Again and again, I truly have to thank him for it all…..]

Halbad picked up an earthworm and bluntly showed it to Alice, who then threw away the hoe and fled. Sebas gave some information at that moment.

“Young lady, in the town of Baras there is an instructor of the training school who is known to be acquainted with Kou. How about writing a letter to that person?”

“The town of Baras? … Let’s see, there is something I still wanted to talk about with Kou.”

If I’m not mistaken that instructor took care of him when he had a cat’s body. Furthermore, it was a coincidence that he took over Fausta’s body in that town. If Kou returned to the town of Baras, then it might be a good idea to exchange letters with him.

In the town of Kurakaru there is also an adventurers’ guild that they can use to send letters.

“The name of that instructor?”

“If I’m not mistaken, it’s Elmel, or something like that.”

The ex-soldier swordswoman who teaches at the training school. Alice decided to write a letter to that person.

From the town of Kurakaru to the east, the carrier bird that Kou possessed was perched on a carriage for about half a day. Since this area is a mountain area, the only scenery is just the green lush of the mountains and the gray rocks. Between those are thread-like roads that they are currently traveling on.

Kou thought of returning to the town of Baras after flying away. From the sky in the far horizon he could see something that looked like a town.

The distance that took a carriage two days would be far more for a bird. While he was looking around, thinking where the camping ground for the trainees was, he saw a carriage that was traversing through the mountain road.

[Oh? That is…]

Around the two leisurely traversing carriages was a group of armed men, they were busy exterminating a group of beasts that were attacking them. The carriage at the front was a well known carriage that nobles use, but the carriage behind it was large enough to cover the road. The carriage’s roof had weapons attached, looking rugged.

It seems like that carriage is for the guards’ use. Among the beasts that were attacking them, there were two bigger than the rest. There was a demon beast with a wolf-like head, a black horn, and a bear’s physique with white fur covering its body. Kou told the carrier bird to make a dive, targeting one of those two demon beats.

“Raise the speed some more! Diss, get up the roof and assist Karen!”

“Yes.”

“Captain, they’re comin’ from the right side, we gonna attack ‘em?”

“Wait until one of the horn bears has been slowed down.”

The captain of the group, who is tasked to protect the carriage, quickly gave out orders. Their job this time was to escort a merchant noble to a little far off area, but because they took a wrong turn, they missed the safe road and went through the mountains. Then, they were attacked by a group of wolves who had mutated wolves as their leaders.

Because the servants’ carriage got broken, they had to put the luggage in the nobles’ carriage, even though they might have run away. In the guards’ carriage there were injured people, so it was already full. Since they couldn’t raise their speed, they had to move while fighting.

If it was just a mutated wolf, then they who were specialized in subjugation wouldn’t have a problem, but because of bad luck, they met with two demon beasts of great power and low intelligence; the “Horn bear.” Furthermore, at their first encounter, one of their carriages got destroyed, thus they gotten into their current situation.

The Horn bear always went after them from a distance. From time to time, as if he timed it, they made the mutated wolves attack them. At that time, one of the guards who was on the look out at the roof of the guards’ carriage warned them.

“There’s a suspension bridge up front! It’s bad captain; we can only pass that one by one!”

“We can only make a defense line around the bridge… but it’d be bad if they’ try to force their way through.”

“Let’s drive our carriage on the side of the cliff and get off. Even if those dogs try to attack, the real problem are the horn bears, aren’t they?”

Compared to a normal carriage, it’s made sturdier, but as it is, it may not be sturdy enough to withstand the attacks of a three meter long monster. Leaving aside damage, in an isolated mountain road like this one, it would be made into a wreck.

“First let the injured and non-combatants pass, after that the nobles’ carriage. Karen and Diss stay on the roof, Lev, join them.”

Using their own carriage as a wall, in order to not get attacked by the horn bears, he let his subordinates make ranged attacks from the roof. Since the mutated wolves couldn’t possibly attack from below, they made a line of defense around the carriage. About two thirds of the mountain road is blocked, so they can only die or die trying.

“Captain! A wolf! On the other side of the suspension bridge!”

“Damn it Rippa, Daido, go!”

“Yeah.”

A pale swordsman and a taciturn seeming warrior ran towards the suspension bridge. While they were trying to repair their formation, the captain of the defense line, Gaviik, began to talk with the vice-captain Mandel, while fighting mutated wolves.

“Reinforcements……. It seems like this area belongs to their flock.”

“Yeah, seriously, using these petty tactics with their base knowledge.”

‘Anyway, we can only try to hold out,’ captain Gaviik said while preparing his stance. Then, from the roof of the carriage, Karen’s seemingly leisure filled voice could be heard.

“Captain~, Something is kinda’ strange y’know?”

“What is it Karen… No, what happened, Dis?”

“U-Um, well, that’s… suddenly one of the horn bears—-”

“Well, y’know, it started to brawl?”

Kou had made a dive with the carrier bird and was near the horn bear’s head. He wanted to immediately possess it.

The Horn Bear has some intelligence, unlike most of those wolves. It was harder than any other beast or mutated beast, because its own will was trying to interfere. But the moment Kou came into contact with its core, its conscience was forced inside. Kou, who got total control over the Horn Bear’s actions, began to attack the mutated wolves that were trying to attack the carriage.

“What….?”

“Could it be a Fall Out?”

Suddenly, the Horn Bear that was kicking around the pack of wolves, started to attack the other Horn Bear, thus beginning a harsh fight. The mutated wolves saw that their bosses didn’t plan to attack the prey anymore, so they began to back off a little. Some of the groups even began to retreat.

“Shall we slaughter the wolves while we still have a chance? If we can take down the Horn Bear too, then it might be a good extra.”

“… The priority lies with our client’s safety.”

The client’s carriage had finished crossing the suspension bridge. Captain Gaviik muttered, ‘I’m gonna retire after this’ and then turned around heading for the suspension bridge. Vice-captain Mandel followed him while he led the horses pulling the carriage to the suspension bridge.

Kou had made sure that the armored carriage had crossed the suspension bridge, while continuing to fight monsters with the monster he possessed. He wanted to test some methods he had been waiting to try out.

He could just make one of them powerless and then posses the other like he did in the dungeon, but he thought that it’s important to also know how to fight. Choosing the right timing, he pulled a random weapon from the dimensional space he has.

He rushed to the sword which he then bit on. He made a wide swing with his claws, releasing a powerful attack as if it were a battle-axe.

Maybe it was a little too flashy of an attack. Seeing the butchered enemy, the Horn Bear thought, I’m not going to fight this, and fled with all his might. The mutated wolves that were part of his pack followed after him. The mutated wolves that were part of the Horn Bear that Kou was possessing hesitated a little before running away.

But after a while, Kou felt the presence of a human, so he went the same way as the other Horn Bear and disappeared. The other side seemed to have come to a decision with their leader.

[So they’re gone. I guess it’s bad if I don’t kill them off properly.]

‘Although I’m still concerned that someone who passes through this road will get attacked, since I accomplished my goal, it’s alright’, Kou thought. When he looked towards the other side of the suspension bridge, he couldn’t see anyone there anymore. It seems like they haven’t dropped the bridge either.

[Now that I think about it, about the people that were protecting that carriage just now.]

He remembered seeing them before. They did have a lot of injured people which bothered me. Those servant-like people that were running aside the carriage also bothered me. They looked tired and in trouble further down the mountain road.

[Well, I do have a lot of tonics and recovery medicine… I guess it’ll come in handy.]

It seems like Kou’s true nature came out since he was too caring. Kou, who had become worried, decided to go after them. After entrusting a letter to Alice to the carrier bird perched on his head, Kou swaggered towards the suspension bridge.

Spirit Migration – Vol 03 – Chapter 14: With good company the journey seems shorter

By Tensaiz

December 31, 2015

Hey guys, I was in a foreign country for a while and an old sensei of mine passed away, so wasn't able to upload the chapters apart from each other, hence why we couldn't upload chapters previous week. So here you guys go~

Happy New Year!

Tensaiz & Honor

———————————

On the mountain road along the cliffs full with boulders, there is a slightly bigger spot on the road with Gaviik's party. They were taking a break while taking care of the injured and performing repairs on the carriage. Most of the injured were the escorts and the servants of the merchant nobles.

"Captain, there isn't enough medicine for the injured."

"I have healed those with the worst injures, but my magic power is hitting rock bottom."

"What about the reserve medicine?"

"All the reserves have been depleted… according to Franch there aren't any herbs that can be used to make medicine in this area, we can only resupply when we reach a city…"

Gaviik sighed as he was scratching his head while hearing the report from his subordinates about how the situation is worse than he had expected. If they passed this mountain then it would only be half a day of traveling before they reach the next town, but taking in the facts that the servants' carriage had been destroyed, it means they would have to walk. Moreover, thinking about the injured, it would at least take a whole day before they got there.

Even so, compared to a normal road it's still faster. But the problem is that they could be attacked by a group of animals or bandits on the way.

"We can't really protect anything in this condition."

"If we handle this poorly there could be more injured or even deaths."

Gaviik nods solemnly to the vice-captain's words. At that moment, Dis, one of the magicians who was on lookout duty up on the carriage, gives his report with a puzzled look.

"Umm, captain… that."

"Hm?"

"What is it?'

When he looked towards the mountain road where Dis was pointing, bulging a little from behind a boulder, something possessing white body hair with a black horn on its wolf-like head could be seen. It was sending fleeting

glances their way while glimpsing from behind the boulder.

Thinking it was another attack from mutated wolves he began to sense his surroundings in a hurry, but there didn't seem to be any presences like that around. Captain Gaviik gathered his subordinates of who he knew could kill the Hornbear.

"Rippa, get over here! Mandel assist Rippa, Karen back both of them up."

"Oooh? What is what is it, is it an enemy?"

"Behind that boulder over there, those damn dogs may be hiding in the surrounding so be careful."

"Ah, it's the Bear-chan that brawled a little while ago."

The pale looking swordsman Rippa began rush over while drawing his sword, Mandel gave out precise advise about the target. Karen was going in her own pace like always. When the three of them get closer for the kill, the monster Hornbear ran away.

'Did he come for reconnaissance or something', is what they thought while tilting their heads, but when they looked behind the boulder he was hiding they found a mountain of medicine lined up.

"The heck is this?"

"Oh, there's a lot of medicine."

"Don't touch it Karen, Rippa be aware of the surroundings. Captain! Please send Franch over."

The result of the Healer's appraisal, they found out that out was just some normal medicine. Including magic water and medicine, there are about fifty of them. When they looked at it again, they saw a monster glancing their way while peeking from behind another boulder. Though it was suspicious beyond doubt, they couldn't mistake that figure.

"……. I don't get what's happening but let's pick it up."

Thanks to the medicine that the monster seemingly left behind they could heal the rest of the injured and they could also recover the magicians' magic power with the magic water, so they began to make preparations to leave. For now they made a simple cart from the spare carriage and materials. When they were finished they connected it to the carriage and loaded the luggage on it.

The nobles' carriage, where the protecting target was in and Gaviik's armored carriage, and together with the cart they were able to get everyone on it. They start moving out at a speed that was at least faster than walking. When they looked back they could see the Hornbear from just now following them from a set distance.

"What do we do about that?"

"For now just keep your guard up."

Leaving behind the rocky area, the side of the road began to change to greenery when they had finally finished traversing the mountain road and reached the highway. At the entrance of the mountain road the party decided to take a break.

While they were making preparations to cook, they heard rustling sounds in the direction of the mountain road. The Hornbear from a while ago was jumping in and out of the trees and bushes. A bird that was perched on a nearby tree chirped and flew away scared.

“What’s there?”

“A flowing river if I’m not wrong. Since we need to cross over to the highway we need to go over the bridge.”

The skillful vice-captain Mandel showed his knowledge of topography. Gaviik, who doesn’t understand what the Hornbear is trying to do, told everyone that they should keep their guard up, then he returned to checking how the carriages were doing.

Meanwhile, the Hornbear Kou who was nearby the resting place for the carriages was looking for food for the Hornbear while going through the bushes and trees.

Having obtained what is edible and what isn’t from the Hornbear’s mind, he looked for the ‘meat’ it preferred. After searching for a while, he found a flowing river. He got that this Hornbear’s favorite food is fish.

[Can I get some fish?]

Just what should he do while he didn’t possess any tools to get some fish. Kou tried to search through his memories about the techniques he learned from Elmel and the others about how to obtain food, but he only knew methods where he needed to posses some kind of tool. It’s hard to find a tool that could be used by the rugged paws of a Hornbear.

[Hmm? This method… is it knowledge from another world?]

Since he had a memory with an unclear origin about ‘the technique of bird catching fish’ he decided to try it out. Walking along the river for awhile he looked around for a bulging boulder. When he found a boulder where fish seemed to gather, he pulled out a sturdy-looking hammer from his dimensional pocket.

[One two~tsu.]

Easily wielding a two-handed steel hammer with one paw he hit the boulder with the Hornbear’s brute strength. With a resounding loud bang sound, cracks began to run through the boulder. In a moment the fish that were stunned by the shockwave flew up out of the water. Like that he safely secured his food by grabbing all of the fish.

“Yeah, should I just eat it raw?”

Answering to the Hornbear’s will about how it quickly wants to eat, Kou loosened a little of his control and began to eat. I don’t know if other monsters are the same, but it seems this one feels fear in regard with the desire to eat. The Hornbear was eating in a daze while Kou felt it was giving an atrophied feeling.

After that, the Hornbear went to other places and used to same method to catch fish and filled its stomach, since it was satisfied with its feeling of fullness his conscious went back to being dormant.

[So it’s a monster that just eats and sleeps…]

Not knowing if he could store the fish he tried, but it didn’t seem to work. It seems like he can’t put anything with a soul in his dimensional pocket.

Perishing and then having its soul depart, the fish that had died could now be put into the dimensional pocket. Since he didn’t know if it would spoil, he would check it out from time to time, since Kou finished his resupplying he went back to see how the others were doing.

After going the way he came he made it to the entrance of the mountain road, it was just in time since the others were preparing to leave.

“Captain.”

“Yeah, he noticed. I wonder how long he plans to follow us.”

Captain Gaviik just shrugged when he saw the face of the Hornbear that was glancing at them from behind a boulder and decided that they should just move out for now. At that moment the young magician Dis came over with a troubled expression.

“Umm captain….. I can’t seem to see Karen anywhere though.”

“Hm? Karen should have gone up on the carriage.”

When looking at Gaviik and the others carriage, on the guardrails Karen’s quiver and bow could be seen, but not their owner.

Karen is a genius female archer, a young seventeen year old woman with a cat-like loveliness with a charming appearance and a glamorous body, but she was a troublesome girl who got compensated by being an idiot on the inside.

“Where the heck is she prowling around this time?”

At that time, while they were looking around, something had climbed up on a tree or something.

“Ei, I got yo~u!”

“Guee?” [Eh?]

“H- Hey Karen!”

“Dis, call Triton and the others!”

Karen could be seen hanging from the Hornbear’s neck, which was hiding behind a boulder. The Hornbear Kou stood up because he got surprised when he didn’t sense her coming close at all. Naturally, Gaviik drew his weapon in a hurry and rushed out. Mandel ordered Dis to call the healers and went after captain Gaviik.

“Karen! get away.”

“It’s m’kay captain~. This one’s tame y’know?”

Karen, who totally ignored captain Gaviik’s tension when he tried to intimidate the Hornbear with his beloved sword the magic sword ‘Kazekiri’, she told him that while nonchalantly hanging on the Hornbear’s neck which was at least twice her size. Gaviik’s head began to hurt from this, but he decided to consider Karen’s words.

Though it isn’t because she comes from the land of spiritualists and technique users Eioa, but unlike how she acts she has a very sharp sense when it comes to sensing someone’s true nature. It’s as if she could discern whether she could trust someone or not on instinct.

No matter what kind of deal you’d want to make with her, as long as you aren’t someone she trusts (doesn’t like) then it would never be possible and if you showed an opening you would just fall into a trap. In fact, at times when there are disputes between nations, Karen’s ‘instinct to see who she can trust’ has saved them many times.

To Karen, who began to climb on the Hornbear with her hands and feet, the Hornbear looked as if he was making sure she didn’t fall and supported her with his paw. Gaviik who saw this began to seriously think ‘Karen’s discerning eyes can even work on monster?’

“Captain! what’s happening?”

“Oh? The heck’s that girl Karen doin now?”

“It’s as you can see, it took a liking to Karen. Ref, I want to hear your opinion about this.”

“… I’ll go investigate it.”

While directing his magic sword to the ground he began to ask the opinion of the gathered members. Just like Karen she’s someone from Eioa, she has been entrusted with being the staff officer the attack specialist Refitia, and she was now preparing to use analysis type magic while stroking the top of her wand.

The wand she has is a special wand called the ‘Hand of the flow’ which lets her control the flow of magic power; it’s a high class wand that helps with controlling all kinds of magic. Even though she specializes in attack type magic she is also able to use the basics of technique type magic and healing type magic. Though the quality may drop since she doesn’t specialize in it, but Ref’s analysis was able to find out that there is another existence within the Hornbear.

“… That Hornbear is strange; the body’s conscious isn’t on the surface.”

“What does that mean?”

“… Another existence that possesses a strong force has dominated and controls its body.”

“Another existence? Isn’t it under the some kind of spell that makes it obedient or charms it?”

To captain Gaviik’s question staff officer Ref relates the Hornbear’s state to the existence that was in Barass’ dungeon ‘possession by an intelligent existence other than the collective conscious’ which was made her think about the state of this Hornbear.

“Barass’s intelligent existence you say?”

“Possessing a monster……”

Vice-captain Mandel and captain Gaviik involuntarily faced each other. They thought about a bitter memory which left them in red. The fake monster that was used to call customers to the town which they killed, the demon dog and the ‘intelligent existence’ which controlled it which was still a hard to believe story to them.

“Hm? I dun really get it, but it’s alright to think of it as an ally?”

“What! That’s a monster among monsters you know.”

“Well, it might be a monster, but it is liked by Karen and the staff officer says it’s intelligent so it must be, right?”

When Triton said that he couldn’t believe that a monster would ally itself with humans, Rippa who didn’t think about the hard stuff made a decision based on the facts. While they were doing things like that, Karen had climbed up the Hornbear Kou’s shoulder and began to wave at them, then she said something unbelievable.

“Hey hey, let’s take this one along, I’m gonna ride on him.”

“… It can be a ward against animals.”

“Yeah.”

What they gained from all this was that since this Hornbear was being obedient, letting Karen ride his shoulder which showed that it was likely that Ref’s hypothesis about how it was controlled by the ‘intelligent existence’ was correct, also, since it’s a powerful monster, small fry monsters wouldn’t come close which is a merit.

“There may be some that oppose this, but certainly at the moment the merits are good.”

When they arrive at the next town it would probably be past evening and be midnight. Even if it’s the highway, it’s dangerous to receive attacks from a herd of animals or a group of bandits. It’s good enough if the Hornbear just scared off the small animals in the surroundings.

“Are we going to take it along?”

“Ah, yeah, because it looks troublesome to take Karen off it and there’s also Ref’s analysis. Also, it’d be bad if we didn’t start moving out soon.”

The one who hired them and who they need to protect, lord Kizewashi asked what they were doing while talking in front of a monster.

Anyway, from what they’ve seen on the mountain road it’s highly likely that it would just follow them even if they left it behind. Then it would be better for them to keep it where they could see it so they could subdue it easier if they need to.

“But do you think that story about the demon dog that allied itself with the adventurers of Barass was actually real?”

“Who knows?”

If a fake monster was used as an attraction to get customers like that really exists, then it would’ve been better to tell this to a perverted scientist in the capital, Gaviik muttered this while thinking about the magic tool seller he usually frequented.

“Rippa and Daido sit in the front carriage. Dis, give Karen her bow and quiver. Ref, go up on the carriage. We’re moving out.”

Snappily giving out orders, captain Gaviik’s commands resound. In order to let Karen receive her bow, the Hornbear Kou that was sitting stood up. When he did, he was able to easily reach the roof of the carriage with his physique, seeing that, Dis shrieked and moved back.

“Kuma-chan, helloo~.”

“Guuuu~uuu.” [hello.]

In no time he got dragged in their group and let a girl called Karen ride on his shoulder, the Hornbear Kou followed behind the rough-looking carriage in a really happy mood. At the time when he went to the training camp’s camping grounds with Elmel and the others, or the time when he was carried to the town while he was a snake, even when he was traveling with Alice and the others for two days he felt that something was missing.

Looking at the adventurers’ journeys, until now it was just being carried around in a vehicle, but this time he was firmly traveling about the planet’s soil, though it may be borrowed, he could walk around and travel with his own feet.

[I’m sort of getting excited.]

The nobles’ carriage and the cart attached to it, the armored carriage and adding up the Hornbear in the rear the group began to move out on the highway of the forest.

Spirit Migration – Vol 03 – Chapter 15: Awkwardness and Grilled Fish

By Tensaiz

December 31, 2015

Another one for new year~

While the group had squeezed in two breaks while traversing the highway in the forest, they were able to reach the town almost on schedule around evening. The escort mission of Gaviik's party end's here.

"Ah, it's finally over. Let's drink some liquor!"

"The self-made alcohol in this kind of small town is usually good right."

Together with the rest of the party members they went into a tavern where they could get food. Within the bustling tavern a girl was busily running around taking orders, from time to time she would slap away the hands of some drunks that would go for her ass.

While his subordinates were relaxing, Gaviik, Mandel and Ref were busy splitting up their profit from this job, while they were working out fine details such as finding the next job procuring equipment and other such things. Since their pay got reduced for reimbursing the destroyed carriage, they were only left with a small amount.

Since they had used up all their medicine, their pay would be even less since they'd need to resupply on medicine. If they didn't have the medicine the Hornbear left behind then they would've been deep in red. Just where did that mountain of potions come from? That was the question they had–

"Captain! Vice-captain and strategist you're too stuffy, smile some more~!"

"This smell of wild plants, it's delicious! It seems like the spice of Nachtome has been used."

"Oh well…"

"Well, I guess it is fine to go along with them from time to time."

— Together with his subordinates in the tavern, they forgot all about the hardships on this mission.

While Gaviik's party was relaxing in the tavern, Kou was fishing in the lake close to the village while hiding in the forest.

It's impossible to make intricate things with the Hornbear's paws, but something simple like attaching a line and a hook to a pole he can, he's also able to easily get the items from his dimensional storage and put them together.

It shouldn't be that hard to catch something while fishing as a Hornbear.

[—— Or so I thought, I guess it really is impossible in the end. It seems like the fish are scared and won't come close.]

He was able to use the fishing technique like he thought, but if the most important thing is missing, the fish coming closer, then there is nothing that can be done. He might be able to use it if he were to make a pose as if he were thinking about life. While he was thinking about jokes like that, he felt a human presence coming closer to him from the town.

[Someone is coming…?]

Putting away the fishing rod, Kou, who had hidden himself within the lush plants and trees, looked toward the small road that branches of from the highway.

“Kuma-chan, I wonder just where you are~.”

Karen was walking around the small road connected to the lake with meat shish in both her hands. It seems like she wanted to let the Hornbear eat some of the food too, so she came to give him some. While Karen was doing that, three thugs had followed her from town staying near her.

“Yo, beautiful.”

“Walkin’ around on yer own in the woods middle in the night, you got a death wish?”

“Hm?”

If they knew that Karen was part of Gaviik’s party, then they wouldn’t even think of laying a hand on her. Why this happened; the three of them were deciding whether they should go to the tavern or play at the brothel, then they saw her walking around waving meat shish in both her hands and decided to target her.

Having a cheeky cat-like beautiful face, maybe she has had some alcohol since her face seemed glossy, she’s filled up in all the right places and because she tried to hide that, the places seemed more tightened, which aroused them further.

When Karen tried to turn around, one of the three men threw his arms around her.

“Hi~yaaaaa”

“OOH! She got a nice body on her.”

The man, who had grabbed Karen whose hands were occupied, went on and put his hand under her clothes, he groped her breasts which are plump and soft as he expected.

“Iya~aan, I’m not someone that does that kind of work you know? It’s bad to do something like that!”

—— And when she had said something airheaded their desire got further stimulated, making them even more raring to go. The moment when the three men tried to take Karen into one of the bushes, a giant shadow appeared from amongst the trees. A slightly dull white body appeared with a wolf’s head and a black horn.

“Ah, Kuma-chan.”

“Hi~i!”

“Ha, it’s a Hornbear!”

“It’s a monster! A monster appeared!”

To the appearance of a large monster that isn’t supposed to appear near a town like this, the three thugs immediately ran for their lives without a second thought.

Sitting on a random boulder around the banks of the lake, the Hornbear Kou was gnawing on the meat shish he got from Karen. He felt the Hornbear's conscious beginning to surface, but since he's alone with Karen there is no way he can let go of his control.

Kou can only feel hunger from the host's will; though he might not be able to faintly taste things, he knows that the act of 'eating' is needed to sustain life.

"Kuma-chan, just this much isn't enough right?"

"Gro~oowl."

The meat shishs Karen brought with her were the size of three adult male fists, one shish is enough to fill the stomach of an average adult male, but with the Hornbear's body it was only a snack so it wasn't nearly enough.

"Then, I'll go catch some fishes."

While humming Karen took out her assembly type portable bow and put it together, then she skillfully aimed her arrow toward the lake. 'Can you catch fish with a bow?' Is what Kou, who was watching over her thought. Then he confirmed that she was putting magic power into the arrow.

It's an archery technique that skilled archers use. The arrow Karen fired went through the water ignoring its resistance and leaving behind a small ripple and splash, she accurately hit a giant freshwater fish at the bottom of the lake. A few moments later, the layer of magic power the arrow left behind on its path burst and the water erupted.

This archery technique forms a layer of magic power around the arrow which nullifies physical resistance the arrow would get, it possesses the effect of being less effected by rain or wind. Just like Karen did, even if you fired it into the water it wouldn't be affected by the water's resistance for a while. Of course, being this proficient in it isn't something just anybody could do.

[So Karen was this good…]

"Kuma-chan, lend me a paw."

Karen who had tried to pull up the big fish with her string attached arrow, asked for help since the prey was too big. The big fish Karen caught was about 133 Pale long. In units Kou knows it would be a giant fish of about two meters long.

Even with the Hornbear's brute strength it would be hard to lift the fish if he didn't put his waist into it and while he was picking the fish up, Karen had finished up the preparations for the fire by gathering twigs and leafs.

"Will it grill~ will it grill~, will the fish get grilled well~."

[Vu~arfu~arufu~a.]

Karen was singing while evenly spreading the fire with a stick. While Karen was singing happily, Kou was able to somehow sing along. When he did, Karen began to laugh happily. A while later, the smell of grilled fish was spreading around.

[Something like this is heartwarming and nice isn't it?]

Meanwhile, at the tavern in the city.

"I'm serious, without a mistake there was a Hornbear!"

"A big one like that, you can't meet one if you don't go deep into the mountains y'know."

Three drunken adventurers or mercenaries came into the tavern and made a fuss about how there's a Hornbear in the forest close by. In one corner of the bar members of Gaviik's party heard them talking about it, every one of them immediately thought about the Hornbear that followed them from the rocky mountain and was liked by Karen.

Just like Gaviik's party they were in a group of other adventurers or mercenaries, while Gaviik's group sent them a skeptical look they started to talk.

"Now that I think about it, Karen went to the forest didn't she."

"It seems like she went over to bring the Hornbear some food… could she have been seen?'

Gaviik and Mandel were whispering with each other. Would it not be wise to send someone over to look after her, when the worried Triton suggested it, the voices of the three idiots which were still going on could be heard.

"Oh yeah, I get the feeling I didn't see that girly when we ran away."

"Didn't she just get eaten?"

"Yeah, since it was a monster and all, well, it was an unforgettable feeling."

Such a waste, really a waste, the three idiots lamented while laughing.

Bang, the chair fell to the ground and the seemingly taciturn warrior Daido leaves his seat while putting on his battle gloves and walked in a quick pace toward the tavern's exit. Rippa who was drinking next to him said toward him.

"Hey hey, Daido where are you going?"

"Forest."

"Hey wait a second!"

"I refuse."

Even within the party he is more concerned than anybody else. —— Simply put, he loves her, but it seems like no matter how much time passes he just can't bring himself to say it.

Hey, hey, while saying that, Rippa donned his beloved sword and followed after him. Dis, who was next to them looked at their back and then toward captain Gaviik and the others, then strategist Ref who was next to vice-captain Mandel stood up.

As if by an invisible something all the core members of Gaviik's party stood up from their seat and went toward the tavern's exit.

"Oh it seems like specialists are going to take care of it."

Now we can feel at ease, the three idiots spouted such bullshit while seeing them off. The other mercenary and adventurer groups weren't seeing them off but rather thinking whether a Hornbear really did appear, but none of them left their seat. They decided it would be better to wait for the Gaviik party's return.

While such a commotion was happening at the bar, on the side of the lake a human and animal were leisurely spending their time while eating.

"Hmm, can't eat another bite."

"Vu~orfu-aru" [Seems like this one's also satisfied.]

The giant fish was able to satisfy Karen and it also seemed to be enough for the Hornbear's stomach. While watching the nocturnal birds eating the leftover flesh on the fish's bones, Karen rounded herself up on Kou's knee.

"Kuma- cha~n….."

"Vu~arfu? Vu~orfu~oarfu~aru?" [Karen? You'll catch a cold if you sleep here you know?]

The Hornbear's fur is harder than you'd expect, but it seems like soft body hair was comfortable, since he could hear Karen sleeping after a short while.

[Oh my, seems she fell asleep.]

Of course there is no way he would just wait until the sun rises like this. Just what should I do now, while worrying about it Kou carefully lifted up Karen making sure he didn't injure her, and then he walked towards the town while hoping that someone that from Gaviik's party comes looking for her.

"Hey Daido wait a second already, if you go around with killing intent like that then even docile monsters would —"

Rippa, who normally doesn't think about things too deeply and just does them simply, was now trying to calm the worried Daido but while he was soothing him, Daido suddenly stopped walking. Rippa then ended up colliding with his back from the leftover momentum.

"What the heck, don't stop all of a sudden."

"This smell."

From the entrance to the forest they could smell grilled fish. Gaviik who went after the two of them called out to them.

"Isn't Karen just grilling some fish?"

"Captain."

If I'm not mistaken a Hornbear also eats fish, the moment when the members had found this out and wanted to step deeper into the forest, a white figure appeared from within the forest and almost instinctively the members of Gaviik's party had their guard up.

That figure was the Hornbear carrying Karen. He thought he had eaten Karen and got surprised for a moment but then he saw that she was just sleeping and became relieved. When the Hornbear holds out Karen with his long thick arms toward him, Daido carefully received her.

"Hey Daido you sure you won't drop her?"

"… I won't."

[This person seems to be really on the edge, is he alright?]

The Hornbear slightly tilted his which causes his body to stiffen, though from the eyes of the others it looked as if he was concerned about Karen and Daido. Leaving behind potions, getting liked by humans, this Hornbear is totally different from the large monster they know off.

After Gaviik's left out a sigh he looked at the Hornbear, when he did he unintentionally muttered a question that came to his mind.

"You, seriously just who are you?"

When he muttered it the Hornbear looked at Gaviik. Captain Gaviik then gave him a puzzled look. Vice-captain

Mandel who was right next to him and strategist Ref both took a step back. Kou thought for a little, and then the spiritualist's amulet the gem appeared on the Hornbear's forehead.

"Wha! Y, You're……."

Amazing everyone, with a flutter a memo paper appeared on the Hornbear's chest with a self introduction written on it.

"Kou…? So, you're called Kou? The one that possessed that Demon dog."

"Gu~au" [That's right.]

Answering their question with a yes, the Hornbear Kou gave them Karen's portable bow and then retuned toward the lake. Since it's the entrance of the forest road it stands out.

Turning around once, Kou waved his hand saying, see you again, and then his figure disappeared into the forest. Seeing off the figure of the Hornbear Kou amongst the trees, with an awkward feeling, Gaviik and the others return to town for now.

"No way, to think it would be the Demon dog from that time…"

"It's so sudden I can't believe it, or so I would like to say… but this paper, furthermore—-"

"……. There's no mistake that that green stone was the spiritualist's amulet. It's probably the same one that we saw in Barass."

Lev, who had been in charge of the freezing trap, can say for certain that the wavelength she felt was the same from one from that time. Gaviik grandly sighed after he remembered how a female swordsman looked at him with eyes of condemnation at that time.

"Ha~aaaaaaaaaa, how did it get to this."

"If that existence, 'Kou' is an existence as the rumors in the town said he is, then we might have earned ourselves some awkward infamy."

It would be better to lengthen their stay in the town of Barass the next time they stay there, strategist Ref also advised him that it would be better to have some good connections with the village chief and the adventurers association. Until they had reached the inn they stayed at before, the top members of Gaviik's party were all silent with a weird air around them.

"What could've happened to captain and the others? Did something happen to Karen-san?"

"He was kind of making an awkward and difficult face wasn't he?"

"Yeah…"

Dis and the others are young members or apprentices, the ones that took care of everything, the underlings. While sitting with each other in the corner of the tavern they were looking at each other with puzzled looks.

Spirit Migration – Vol 3 – CH16 – The request to subjugate a gang of bandits

By Tensaiz

March 16, 2016

Every branch of the adventurers' association is different in scale and has different features. The main point is that it exists in every town as a network of the town.

Because the escort job didn't pay that much in the end, Gaviik's party was looking for some random jobs they could do before moving on to the next town. The merchant noble that they escorted to this town had introduced them to a big job.

"Getting rid of a gang of bandits you say…"

"Yeah, well, it might not be what you guys specialize in, but it's not as if you're doing it alone."

A request to subjugate the bandit gang that has been going around settlements. Lately, bandits and such who have been chased out of places have finally started to form a gang. It has been discovered that their hideout is in the ruins of a shrine near this town. From the adventurers' association's information, they're a gang of nearly fifty bandits.

Those that will participate in this operation are the city guards as the center, hired mercenary groups and adventurer groups, though there are a number of solo mercenaries. Anyway, they're just a nameless bunch, that's why he eagerly welcomed Gaviik's party's participation since they possess the medal of 'War axe and Serpent'.

The same day, the members of Gaviik's party had gathered in a room from the inn they visited last night. They were talking about the job's details and their plan of action. Because fighting against other people is more dangerous than fighting monsters, it'll be necessary to assist the younger members who aren't used to it.

Especially this time, they can't take along the apprentices, since the gang of bandits they have to fight this time is reasonably large.

"It has been decided that we'll use the city guard's carriage to go to the location. Therefore the group of apprentices and the group that does the odd jobs will stay in the town."

"We'll have Viido and Franch stay behind as leaders. I want all the others to participate, any questions?"

"Questiooon~, are we taking Kuma-chan along?"

At Karen's question captain Gaviik and vice-captain Mandel looked at each other, for now they decided to separately talk about 'Kou' in the afternoon. Leaving aside its mentality, on the outside, the Hornbear is a genuine monster. They also can't just leave him to hide in the forest near the town forever.

If they were to work together they would first have to prepare a good reason for bringing a monster along, it also has to do with the trust they have in their party.

After discussing the bandit gang subjugation request with the related parties, they checked everything, they inspected and did maintenance on their equipment, and bought what was necessary. Then the main members ate some food and went towards the forest.

There was a question whether the Hornbear Kou, which their party cautions over, will be taken along or not. Since they didn't have any better ideas they decided to ask the person in question himself about it.

"V~oorf" [Alright]

Kou had shown them a simple acceptance of their request with some words written on a piece of paper. Getting such an easy answer, Gaviik's party became exhausted. By the way, Karen was riding on the Hornbear Kou's shoulder again.

In accordance to taking Kou along, they began to discuss about some kind of mark the Hornbear Kou would wear to show he wasn't a normal monster. Kou suggested that he could use his trademark which is the gem on his forehead, but since it didn't stand out because of his large body it was rejected.

In the end they decided that they would adorn him with a piece of horse-armor the horses of Gaviik's party wear, in order to show his affiliation with them. The result, they got a Hornbear wearing armor which ended up having a strange appearance.

"Kuma-chan, isn't it heavy?"

"Vu~oolf"[Nope, it's okay.]

The one in question, Kou, became aware of the fact that he was part of a group after wearing the armor with Gaviik party's crest. In other words, his tension began to rise. An unusual group was formed between monster hunters and a monster.

"Anyway, with this, one of the problems has been resolved."

"Yeah… Ah, by the way Kou."

"Vu~ooolf?"

Just where did that amount of potions come from, Gaviik tried asking Kou about it after remembering it. Kou answered him by saying he picked them up in the dungeon. Because he now sees them as his comrades, Kou didn ´t think about hiding anything. He told them about how he stored things he picked up in the dungeon in his interdimensional storage.

"Vuwoo~vuwoolf." [I also have things like this.]

From his interdimensional storage, he takes out a big battle axe and a wide shield for warriors and shows them to him. Everyone from Gaviik's party involuntarily stares at him. A monster nearly three meters in length armed with a battle axe and a wide shield. The only thing he made them, who are specialized in taking on monsters think, was 'We aren't going to fight this right?' That was the kind of monster that had appeared before them.

Anyway, Gaviik, who had once again recognized Kou as that demon dog, said the one thing that had to be said as the representative of the party.

"Well, sorry for that."

Kou wholeheartedly accepted captain Gaviik's apology. From the beginning Kou didn't think of himself as a victim because he was killed by adventurers who specialize in killing monsters, he had possessed one after all.

n order to inform the other adventurers of the Hornbear Kou's participation in exterminating the bandit group, the main party members from Gaviik's group went into town together with the Hornbear Kou. After they had met with some of the influential people in town and the noble merchant from a while ago, they made sure that the servants

and others wouldn't speak a word of what happened on the mountain road.

At first the gatekeepers and the pedestrians were afraid. But because it looked rather more intelligent than feral, because of the armor he had equipped, people began to touch the Hornbear's fur. Because it was such a strange happening people eventually lost all wariness they had toward him.

It seems that Karen riding on the Hornbear Kou's shoulder helped lessen the wariness.

The other mercenary groups and adventurer parties were also alright with it, mostly because of Gaviik's 'battle-axe and serpent' party. On the surface, nobody fervently objected to the Hornbear Kou joining them on this job, but a group of three nomad mercenaries came over to annoy them.

"But it'd just be weird ya know! Last time we saw it, it wasn't wearin' no armor. In tha first place why'd ya hide it in the forest?"

"Today you suddenly said 'actually our group had tamed it' that's what's bothering me ya know. I ain't ever heard of someone tamin' a Hornbear."

"It's a monster right? We dun' even know when it'll bare its fangs. Ya should at least put some chains 'round it."

Unlike the mutated ones, that have a part of their animal self remaining, monsters are beings that suddenly come into existence and because of that, they understand that they are impossible to control. In the first place, it is said that monsters don't get attached to humans.

It's too dangerous so we can't trust him, or so the three say. Certainly, 'why did they hide it in the forest until now' or 'just how did they tame an untamable monster', questions like those were still left. There was a minority that totally trusted them on this matter.

However, there was still the elite group of Gaviik's party. They know how to handle or dodge these kind of situations. Since they are specialized in killing monsters they would also know a lot about biology of monsters. They know a method to tame monsters which hasn't been released to the public yet. But there is no way they would just give out such valuable information.

—— Or that's how they're going to fool the world.

"Not having it immediately enter the town, or letting it stay in the forest, both of them are top secret so we can't tell you."

By giving a certain answer to any of their questions and using the trust the others have in them as high ranking medal holders, they can contain this. The three mercenaries are just small fry, so taking that into account, they have a hold on their weakness, so why not take advantage of that.

"By the way, one of our members went to feed the bear, but I heard that you guys tried to mess with her… Karen, there's no mistake it was these three right?"

"That's right~, Even though I said I didn't do that kind of work, those guys groped my boobs y'know~"

Karen visibly showed her anger by going 'punpun'. At that time, it was dark so they couldn't see well, but there's no mistaking it that Karen was the girl of that time. Knowing that, the three of them froze.

"And then, they tried to force me into the bushes, but then kuma-chan appeared and they ran away."

"……"

That night, after the Hornbear went outside, the bar became noisy with what had just happened. The three who

were being bathed in the cold stares of those around them were uncomfortably silent.

The date of the mission.

After the evening had passed, the city's army's carriages left. The raid on the bandit gang's hideout is planned for midnight. The leader of every group was together in a single carriage heading toward the location. It was decided that Gaviik's party and the mercenary group would break through. The adventurers and the nomad mercenaries would patrol outside.

"Still, it really is troublesome that we don't know the exact number of enemies."

"A number of mages have already tried to confirm it. Since the group is fairly large it would be good to think they would be about even with the city army."

"Them having hostages just adds to the worries doesn't it."

"Well, according to the contract it's something okay to ignore…"

Since it isn't something that easy to do or so he says, the different captains thinking of their subordinates. It seems like there are a few who have been kidnapped from nearby settlements, even if they find them alive, they don't have any obligation to save them. It had become a plan where they should focus on the extermination even if sacrifices did appear.

Be that as it may, even among those that specialize in killing, there aren't that many among them that would mindlessly follow an order like that. This time those that have joined up for this mission have agreed to this plan after they had made sure there wouldn't be any penalties afterwards.

The group of carriages of the city army with the punitive forces riding them in the night on the highway. Behind five carriages there was walking a giant figure.

It is the Hornbear Kou who was added to the line of carriages. In the carriage in front of him a spiritualist affiliated with the mercenaries was casting movement spells on him. Like that he was able to keep up with the carriages that were going relatively fast.

Even if accidents, like the carriage wheels getting stuck somewhere happened, with the Hornbear's physical strength, they can easily get it out. Most of the participants of the punitive force were looking at the Hornbear Kou with vigilance, but when they were more than halfway to their goal he had already gained their trust.

[Oh my? someone's there.]

The Hornbear's own vision is only so-so at night, but Kou can see well even in a place like a dungeon where there isn't any light.

Kou, who had found out about a number of presences a little further down the road, where the group was going to hide among the rocks, ran next to the carriage where Gaviik's party was. He sent a memo paper through the window informing them. From within the Carriage he could hear Karen's sweet voice saying 'Kuma-chan' but then someone reprimanded her by saying 'leave it for later'.

The group of carriages slowly lowered their speed. When Gaviik's group went to the first carriage which belonged to the commanding officer of the town's army, it seems like it was the reconnaissance team which returned.

Since they were close to the hideout, they would walk the rest of the way. While everyone was getting off the carriages, the commanding officer received the report from the reconnaissance team.

"Good work, what's the enemy doing?"

“There weren’t any important moves in particular.”

The remains of a temple’s ruins was now the bandit gang’s hideout. According to the reconnaissance team they didn’t spot any of the enemy’s patrols. It seems like a few days ago an armed group went inside, and since then it had become eerily silent.

—— What to do next. Gaviik’s group and the mercenary group think it’s a trap. Some of the nomad mercenaries were also thinking the same. However, the decision lies with the town’s army. For now, they decided they would go towards the vicinity of the hideout and look around.

“Is that it…”

“Though I had heard of it, seeing it now, it really is a troublesome stronghold.”

The temple ruins were completely carved into the cliff. According to old tales it is said that it was made from expanding an already existing cave in the cliff with magic. From the terrain it could be seen that it is a natural fortress. The only entrance is in the front, and the only way to get there is to find a gentle slope and slowly walk towards it.

“You didn’t find a secret pass leading to the inside somewhere did you?”

“From what the old records say, a secret pass like that hasn’t been confirmed. Though the guys inside might have made one.”

These past few days the reconnaissance team haven’t found an entrance like that. Since they can’t stealthily close in from behind, they don’t have any other choice but to go in from the front, but it does raise suspicion that there isn’t a single bonfire or patroller around.

“Because they’re hiding inside, isn’t it something like that?”

“Yeah.”

For the commanding officer the objective of this force is to exterminate the bandits so even if there may be a trap they just have to break through it. Then a part bear suddenly decided to show his face making the group leaders look at him. Hiding his wry smile Gaviik asked if there was something wrong.

“What’s wrong? Kou.”

“Vu~ooooorfu~”

While ‘pretending’ to answer him with gestures, he pulls out a memo paper in an angle only captain Gaviik can see it. Around the middle of the cliff, where the roof of the temple would be, Kou saw a lot of human forms there. About a dozen of them equipped with something like a bow.

“As expected it’s an ambush ——”

And at that moment, ‘hyuu hyuu’ the sound of wind being cut was heard. Gaviik warned them of the ambush.

“Everyone hide! The arrows are coming!”

At the same time, all the members of the punitive force either hid behind rocks or readied their shields. Although the arrows were hitting the Hornbear Kou who obviously stood out, because of the strong fur and sturdy skin they didn’t pierce deeply and just fell to the ground. For now, Kou just secretly picked them up and put them in his interdimensional pocket.

“They have a grasp on our movements don’t they.”

“Damn, no other choice, everyone charge!”

“Hey, hey, you seriously wanna pierce through.”

The commanding officer splendidly gave out a reckless order. Those that are experienced know that if they were to retreat now, less blood would be spilled. Having been had by an enemy which you have little information on and even going into their territory is just suicidal. It’s just like jumping into a trap on your own.

“It’s dangerous if we stand still for too long! I propose that we retreat for now.”

“We agree with Gaviik’s group, if we try to rush in now it would only increase the number of victims.”

“The right to command lies with us, I will have you obey the contract here.”

Whether he was just being impatient or he’s just an idiot who loves to rush in, to the commanding officer who tells them that they should’ve been prepared for this and that he wouldn’t let them weasel out now, both Gaviik and the mercenary captain gave up thinking that this guy was the type who wouldn’t listen no matter what they said.

These kinds of things also happen in real life like when a superior gives you some annoying jobs.

In a corner of the plains dyed in the dark, he is in a way defending himself by putting both his paws over his head while arrows just keep hitting him? To that figure which just stood there calmly, captain Gaviik got an idea to overturn this situation.

“Kou!”

Vuoorfu~?”

In order to tell him the plan, Gaviik beckoned the Hornbear Kou over.